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Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXII, Issue No. 222

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2012

www.saipantribune.com 50¢



OPINION METER This week's poll:

In a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest and 1 the lowest, what's your level of confidence that the Legislature will pass a budget before the Sept. 30 deadline?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

BUSINESS



Economic growth is pitiful. Unemployment has topped 8 percent for an exhausting 43 months.

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WORLD



Hundreds of Pakistanis protesting an anti-Islam film broke through a barricade near the U.S. Consulate in the southern city of Karachi on Sunday.

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LIFE & STYLE



The "American Idol" judges' panel is now complete with the naming of singer-rapper Nicki Minaj and country crooner Keith Urban.

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Security guard killed in car crash

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Wife also seriously injured in accident

A security guard was killed while his wife was seriously injured when a car he was driving slammed into the concrete fence of the Silver Hotel building on Beach Road, Chalan Kanoa Saturday early morning.

Saipan Tribune learned that the security guard identified as a certain Rajesh, a Nepalese, died on the spot due to multiple injuries.

The wife, a Chinese national, was taken to the Commonwealth Health Center due to serious injuries. She was last reported still at CHC, but is now able to talk.

Police are investigating the possibility

that alcohol and speeding were factors in the crash.

The Department of Public Safety has

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FERDIE DE LA TORRE

The site where a car driven by a Nepalese security guard slammed into, killing him and seriously injuring his wife in Chalan Kanoa Saturday early morning.



Hundreds line up to refund NMIRF contributions

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hundreds of active members of the NMI Retirement Fund trooped to the agency yesterday to submit applications

to withdraw all their contributions.

As early as 9am yesterday, Fund staffers were swamped with the first batch of applicants, mostly from the Commonwealth Health Center.

The Fund started receiving refund ap-

plications yesterday and as of 3:46pm, a total of 327 applications have been taken and stamped by the agency. This effort is to terminate the defined benefit membership of the pension program.

Based on Fund records, there are an estimated 3,000 active members, or those in the defined contribution plan of the retirement system.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial recently signed into law Public Law 17-82, which addresses the many concerns of active members.

Under the new law, employees will be able to get back 25 percent of their contributions after deciding to withdraw within 30 days and the remaining 75 percent will be disbursed to them within 90 days.

In a visit at the Fund yesterday morning, applicants were assigned specific numbers where they can check

See HUNDREDS on Page 4



MONETH G. DEPOSA

NMI Retirement Fund staff are seen busy attending to active members as they submit refund applications yesterday at the agency. As of 3:46pm yesterday, 327 applications were taken by the agency. It is expected that more active members will troop to the agency in the next few days to withdraw their contributions as a result of the ongoing uncertainties at the government pension system.

RELATED NEWS

Pangelinan named Fund acting administrator.

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Impeachment panel to subpoena officials, documents

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Special Committee on Impeachment approved yesterday issuing subpoenas to dozens of officials and private individuals—including department heads and representatives, corrections officers, police officers, attorneys, FBI agents, and a reporter and her partner—to testify in the ongoing review of a resolution impeaching Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, even as the panel has yet to decide whether or not to send soon to the full House three of the 16 articles of impeachment that were already approved.

Dozens of documents, including copies of contracts, financial records, government surveillance videos, KSPN 2 video recordings, and investigation reports will also be subpoenaed as early as Wednesday.

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BACK 2 SCHOOL SPECIALS

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Local

Fitial calls lawmakers to a joint leadership meet

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial invited lawmakers yesterday to a joint leadership meeting set for Sept. 25 to discuss four issues, including addressing the needs of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the NMI Retirement Fund, but Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) and other lawmakers said the priority now should be to pass and sign a fiscal year 2013 budget measure to avoid another government shutdown.

Fitial's letter, delivered to the Legislature shortly before 4pm yesterday, came a day after he told reporters at a pro-Fitial rally on Sunday about his planned leadership summit.

"Because it is important to continue fostering much needed collaboration for the common good of the people, I would like to call upon the full membership of the CNMI Legislature for a joint leadership meeting," Fitial said in his one-page letter to Manglona and House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan).

The four topics to be dis-

cussed are: improving the economy and government services, initiatives to reduce cost of utilities, affairs of the Fund program moving forward, and addressing CHC's needs.

While some lawmakers welcome the leadership summit, others don't.

"It's a good idea to have a leadership summit but at this time, we need to prioritize the budget. The governor should ask his House leadership conferees to attend budget meetings and work with their Senate counterparts to come up with a budget bill agreeable to the House and Senate," Manglona told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Senate president said Fitial is trying to use the leadership summit with lawmakers to help influence the result of the ongoing impeachment process.

A Special Committee on Impeachment is now reviewing the 16 articles of impeachment against the governor for felony, corruption, and neglect of duty.

Fitial said removing him from

office won't solve the CNMI's problems such as the high costs of utilities. He said working together would help solve these.

"The governor is trying to create a perception that the Legislature is not doing anything. He just came back from a vacation and while he's gone, lawmakers were dealing with the issues," Manglona added.

House floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan) said a leadership meeting "is always important."

"It is always important to try to get the leadership of the CNMI together to work toward a common goal. Many might not be as enthusiastic as previous times, but we cannot stop there. We must continue to try," he added.

Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said these meetings between the governor and lawmakers "are always welcomed."

"We always meet with the hope that both houses and the administration would finally work together," he said.

Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan) said at this time, "budget is my priority." Yumul is the alternate budget conferee from the House.

The Conference Committee on the 2013 budget met yesterday afternoon but has yet to disclose the outcome of that meeting, three days after the House leadership conferees didn't show up during Friday's scheduled meeting.

Lawmakers and the administration have until Sept. 30 to pass and enact an FY 2013 budget measure, or the government will have to shut down until a budget is in place.

The leadership meeting is set for Sept. 25, Tuesday, at 11:30am in the Tapochao Room, second floor, at Saipan World Resort in Susupe.

During the last leadership meeting at the same venue, Fitial pushed for the legalization of casino gaming on Saipan and the selling of public lands to investors currently leasing lands where hotels and golf courses are located, among other things. These have yet to materialize.

Rota casino investor wants to tweak island's gaming rules, regs



JMSH LLC president Hee Cho, center, is flanked by other company executives as well as Rota government leaders following Friday's press conference which announced the \$170-million project to construct Rota Casino & Hotel on the southernmost island in the CNMI.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rota investor JMSH LLC, which has announced plans to build a casino hotel on the island, is currently working with the Rota Casino Gaming Commission in addressing "small" issues regarding existing casino rules and regulations.

Company executives said Friday during a press conference announcing the Rota Casino & Hotel project that these issues get in the way of construction which can commence anytime now.

"Until the issues have been resolved, we cannot start construction," said JMSH LLC vice president Jae H. Hong.

JMSH LLC unveiled its plans

to build the \$170-million casino and hotel project inside the Rota Resort & Country Club using its "in-depth knowledge and experience" on Rota, one of the three main islands in the Northern Marianas located 105 km south of Saipan.

The company also owns the Rota Germanium Mineral Water bottling facility on the island and is a major real estate developer on Guam.

The Rota Casino & Hotel project aims to attract tourists from China, Japan, Korea, and even Taiwan given the visa waiver program for travelers from these host countries.

When asked to elaborate on the issues, Hong explained yesterday that there are certain phrases involving taxes in the

rules and regulations governing the Rota Casino Act of 2007 that have "very unclear" definitions.

These phrases include the use of gaming tax and gross revenue, and Hong said their legal department is now working with the commission's legal counsel to resolve the issues.

"They (commission) were supposed to do a draft and send it to us but they haven't done so because they're short-staffed," Hong told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that they expect to settle the matter "hopefully" before the election to get the project rolling.

When asked for comment, Kelvin Hocog of the Rota Casino Gaming Commission said in a separate interview Friday

that JMSH wants the gaming tax reduced because of the additional cost that the company will incur in bringing in doing promotions and bringing in players to Rota, among others.

The gaming tax is currently set at 11 percent, one of the lowest gaming tax in the nation, said Hocog.

He said the commission approved JMSH's five-year casino license last year after being in compliance with capital and other requirements.

In other news, Hocog said the commission is planning to meet with the operator of the casino at Rota Hotel.

He said low player turnout will be among the issues to be discussed with the casino operator.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
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NMI Promotion with iQiyi.com



The Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) has partnered with China's premier online video platform iQiyi for an on-line promotion targeting travel bloggers.

iQiyi is a leading independent online video company founded by Baidu Inc., the world's largest Chinese search engine, and Providence Equity Partners. The video platform focuses on fully licensed, high-definition, professionally-produced content.

As part of the promotion, iQiyi.com will establish and exclusive page for the Northern Mariana Islands and promote a feature page with focus on the homepage during the first week of the promotion. iQiyi.com will also generate a series of interactive events, such as online voting and discussion, to attract traffic.

iQiyi offers a broad range of rich and diverse content, covering movies, TV dramas, documentaries, animation and travel. The MVA is supporting the event with giveaways, brochures, and video. The joint promotion will run from Sept. 7 to Dec. 2, 2012.



This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

'Let people, not Legislature decide on removing Fitial'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) said yesterday the ongoing impeachment process "may be illegal" and asked that the issue to remove Gov. Benigno R. Fitial be decided by voters instead of lawmakers, drawing response from his fellow Special Committee on Impeachment members.

Torres, who have gone on record saying he will vote "no" to the impeachment resolution, said after careful consideration and after seeking technical legal advice, he has "come to the conclusion that it is not in the best interest of the people of the Commonwealth, nor the citizens of my Precinct on Saipan to vote to impeach the governor" based on the impeachment resolution now under panel review.

"I now believe that legisla-

tive impeachment and a mock trial by the Senate is not the right way to proceed in this matter. The correct path would be to open this question up to the voters by the public referendum and let the people of the Commonwealth decide whether to

» Pro-impeachment lawmakers say anyone is entitled to his own opinion

recall the governor or not," Torres said in a two-page statement yesterday.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) asked, "What then is in the best interest of the people?"

Torres said none of the reasons or so-called criminal charges in the resolution "are official charges brought by a real court."

"They are accusations not charges. It is imperative that

all criminal allegations be predetermined as official charges authenticated by our criminal justice system prior to use as reasons to impeach," Torres added.

Dela Cruz said he "totally disagrees."

"Nobody has to be charged before he can be impeached. Was (former U.S. president Bill) Clinton charged before he was impeached? All these articles are merely allegations," he said.

Still, Torres said "if the governor cannot be charged and convicted in a court then he should not be convicted by the

Legislature."

Committee chair and House minority leader Joe Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) said the Constitution and laws authorize the Legislature to conduct impeachment proceedings.

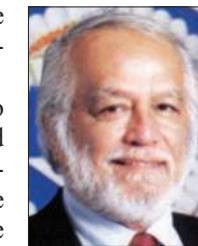
Deleon Guerrero and Dela Cruz said the first items discussed during the first meeting of the committee were the constitutional and statutory provisions related to impeachment.

ing the governor for another two years. I believe this is the correct path to be taken," Dela Cruz said.

Torres also said any person is "constitutionally innocent until proven guilty," including governors.

He also said it is widely known that the governor could never get a fair trial at the Senate, even with a fair and impartial judge presiding.

"Therefore, these criminal allegations and this resolution are not ripe for impeachment considerations by the Legislature as the governor has not been charged or even arrested



Torres

for any of the alleged criminal acts," Torres said.

He said he has made his decision "not to impeach" the governor.

Torres said if the impeachment resolution authors really want Fitial to step down, they should help voters recall the governor.

"If there is really dissatisfaction those same voters should make the decision to recall him. If the resolution accusations prove to be political posturing, timed to affect the coming elections then no harm is done. If those accusations prove out in a court of law, that would be the time to instigate impeachment proceedings and not before," he added.

Pangelinan named Fund acting administrator

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The chief internal auditor of the NMI Retirement Fund is the new officer-in-charge of the pension agency after the Fund's trustee ad litem appointed Lilian Pangelinan as acting administrator yesterday.

NMI Retirement Fund Trustee ad litem Joseph C. Razzano visited the office yesterday where he spent his first day taking part in a series of meetings, including briefings with the agency's actuary and investment consultant.

Ad litem is a court legal term which refers to a guardian appointed to prosecute or defend a suit on behalf of a party who is legally incapable of doing so, in this case, the Fund trustees.

Razzano announced the new appointment in a statement yesterday. Pangelinan has been serving as chief internal auditor for the Fund the past 18 months. Prior to her employment at the pension agency, she had served as the assistant vice president, operations at Hong Kong Shanghai Banking Corp. and the banking administrator at the Department of Commerce.

The Fund lost its administrator following the expiration of Richard Villagomez's contract in August. The deputy administrator, Esther Ada, also quit the position effective last Friday. The Fund also has no functioning board of trustees because it only has two members onboard.

Pangelinan told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that she will

» Trustee ad litem received briefing from actuary, investment consultant

continue managing the operations of the agency.

"As the newly appointed acting administrator, my immediate plans are to continue managing the Fund's day-to-day operations. This includes managing the refund of employee contributions by active and inactive Defined Benefit members as authorized by

P.L. 17-82," she told *Saipan Tribune*, referring to the new law that authorized the refund of active members' contributions in order to terminate the DB plan members.

As of yesterday afternoon, over 300 active members formally submitted their refund applications to the agency, and the number is expected to grow in the coming days.

Also yesterday, Razzano received a briefing from the Fund's actuary, Dylan Porter of Buck Consultants and the Fund's investment consultant, Maggie Ralbovsky of Wilshire Associates, on the financial status of the Fund and its investments. He also received an update on the status of the Fund's local investments.

The trustee ad litem also took the opportunity to meet with the president of board of directors of the Commonwealth Retirees Association, Lorenzo Cabrera, to hear the retirees' concerns.

CRA, meantime, had scheduled a membership meeting Friday to discuss the status of the pension program and to elect new officers of the group. Also invited to address the membership assembly is the trustee ad litem.

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SUBPOENA

From Page 1

Committee chair and House minority leader Joe Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) said panel members will convene on Wednesday to review and approve the release of the invitation and request letters that will be drafted today.

Agencies and individuals will be given five to 10 days to submit the documents requested of them, he said.

Government officials, employees and private citizens will also be given specific dates to testify before the special committee.

During yesterday's morning meetings, all eight members of the committee were present. They were four from the House leadership and four from the minority bloc.

When the meeting resumed in the afternoon, one of the leadership members, vice speaker Felicidad Oguimoro (Cov-Saipan) was "excused" to attend the meeting of the House-Senate conference committee on the fiscal year 2013 budget.

"There are other pressing issues we need to attend to. This (impeachment process) is at the bottom of my priorities right now," Oguimoro told the committee members, during discussions of individuals and documents to be subpoenaed.

'Masseeuse inmate release'

The committee's first discussion topics



Seated from left, House vice speaker Felicidad Oguimoro (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), and Rep. Joe Palacios (R-Saipan), all leadership members aligned with Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, take part in the meeting of the Special Committee on Impeachment, along with minority bloc members, yesterday. The committee will subpoena dozens of individuals and documents as they go over the remaining 13 of 16 articles of impeachment that have yet to be adopted.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

HUNDREDS

From Page 1

the status of their applications from the agency's website. This way, staffers said unnecessary phone calls for check follow-ups will be eliminated.

Longtime government employee Glenn Dikito said he was relieved when the bill was finally enacted into law. Because of the ongoing uncertainties both at the government side and the Fund, he described his decision to take back all his contributions as the "wise" option to take at this time.

Dikito is an employee of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for 21 years. He admitted to *Saipan Tribune* that he has no plan to transfer his monies to the Social Security Administration and would instead find other alternatives where he can put his hard-earned money to a safe investment.

A public safety officer for 25 years,

yesterday were Articles 1, 2, 3, 5, and 7 of the impeachment resolution for felony and corruption, in connection with the January 2010 temporary release of a federal inmate to provide massage service to the governor.

Among the individuals to be invited to testify are the Department of Corrections commissioner, Corrections guards who participated, and the Department of Public Safety commissioner and guards involved in the incident that happened on or before Jan. 8, 2010.

The committee will also subpoena Corrections logs, time and attendance sheets indicating whether such alleged removal of a federal detainee took place; media videos of interviews regarding the incident; Corrections surveillance videos; DPS, Office of the Public Auditor and Office of the Attorney General documents, if any, regarding investigation of the masseuse incident; OAG documents, if any, defending the governor or the governor's response to the allegations related to the masseuse incident; federal investigation reports, if any; information on the status and whereabouts of the masseuse; and Corrections report on value of all services to transport a federal detainee including personnel salaries and fuel costs.

When a motion was made to approve the subpoena related to the five of 16 articles of impeachment, six voted "yes" and two voted "no."

Those who voted "yes" were chair-

man Joe Deleon Guerrero, Oguimoro, Reps. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan), Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan), Tony Sablan (R-Saipan), and Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan).

Reps. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) and Joe Palacios (R-Saipan) voted "no." It was their first time to attend the committee meeting since Thursday. They also both gone on record saying they will vote "no" to the impeachment resolution.

"I know I already said I'm voting 'no' to the impeachment resolution but I will be attending the meetings to learn more about the issues, to make sure our side is also heard," Torres told *Saipan Tribune*.

Palacios, for his part, said he was in Guam last week to meet with government and hospital officials there to see whether they could accommodate his request to have a young patient at the Commonwealth Health Center to be sent to the Guam Memorial Hospital.

'Airport incident'

The second set of discussions also yesterday morning were Articles 4, 6, and 11 in connection with the use of armed police and ports police officers to escort then attorney general Edward T. Buckingham and prevent him from being served a penal summons in connection with criminal charges filed against him by OPA.

Article 4 is for commission of felony, while Article 6 is for corruption and Article 11 is for neglect of duty.

The documents to be requested include the Inspector General's report; the ARRA contract; KSPN video recording of the AG's response regarding the reasons for approving the contract; all relevant media reports; and OPA reports.

The LB staff is also asked to research or produce print media coverage of the airport incident.

'ARRA sole-source contract'

When the committee resumed meeting yesterday afternoon, they discussed Articles 8 and 16 relating to the \$392,406 sole-source ARRA management contract award to Michael Ada's firm within days of resigning as Cabinet member.

Article 8 is for corruption, while Article 16 is for neglect of duty.

Among those to be asked to testify are the director of the Division of Procurement and Supply and OPA's Hasselback.

The documents to be requested include the Inspector General's report; the ARRA contract; KSPN video recording of the AG's response regarding the reasons for approving the contract; all relevant media reports; and OPA reports.

The LB staff is also asked to research or produce print media coverage of the issue.

By a vote of 7-0, the motion to approve the lists was adopted.

'\$190.8M power deal'

The committee also discussed Article 9, related to the no-bid power purchase agreement with a guaranteed price of \$190.8-million in a 25-year period. Article 9 is for corruption.

Among those who will be asked to

James Bond Cruz, described the current status of the pension agency as "very scary" and admitted that he doesn't want to wait for the worst before withdrawing his money.

"This is my money and I need it now. With all that is happening in our broke government, it's very scary and I don't want to risk my investment because this is all that I have," he told *Saipan Tribune* as he waited for his opportunity to be accommodated yesterday at the agency.

Cruz said he will use his money to pay some obligations and might put a portion of it to the Social Security Administration. The employee said he's estimating to receive about \$90,000 in total contributions from the Fund.

Like the two employees, Margaret Prater was also grateful for the opportunity given to the active members to withdraw their contribution. Prater is an employee at the Northern Marianas College for the past 21 years. For many

years that she contributed to the retirement system, she admitted that it was only at this time where she lost confidence on the program.

"If I will not get my money now, there is no assurance that I can get it in a later time considering the financial status of the Fund. The life of the program is very uncertain and I don't want to risk [my money]. Right now, I am still thinking where I can best put my money but certainly, I will be putting it to some investments," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Another police officer for 18 years and active member of the Fund expressed his relief upon signing of the new law.

"What's the use of putting our monies to the retirement program that can't give assurance of protection to members like us? It's better we get it back and make plans for ourselves," the active member who wants to remain anonymous added.

Among those who will be asked to testify are acting CUC director; CUC comptroller; CUC manager for power plant operations; Procurement and Supply director; and the Department of Public Lands acting secretary on a land lease agreement for the power plant.

The documents to be requested include contracts and related agreements between the CNMI and Saipan Development LLC, along with economists.

com's economic analysis and correspondence between and among CUC, OAG, and the Office of the Governor.

The committee also tasked the LB staff to produce print media coverage of the issue.

testify are acting CUC director; CUC comptroller; CUC manager for power plant operations; Procurement and Supply director; and the Department of Public Lands acting secretary on a land lease agreement for the power plant.

The documents to be requested include contracts and related agreements between the CNMI and Saipan Development LLC, along with economists. com's economic analysis and correspondence between and among CUC, OAG, and the Office of the Governor.

The committee also tasked the LB staff to produce print media coverage of the issue.

'Failure to remove AG'

The panel also discussed Article 10, neglect of duty, related to the governor's failure to remove the attorney general at that time, Edward T. Buckingham, even after he was found violating laws when he hosted a political gathering for the governor's delegate candidate, now Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho.

Among the individuals and documents to be subpoenaed are OPA's Hasselback, AG designee, copy of OPA's report, and copy of complaint and amended complaint.

Print media coverage will also be compiled and reviewed.

Retirement Fund

The last item was Article 15, neglect of duty, when Fitial failed to fully remit employer contributions to the NMI Retirement Fund since 2006, thereby threatening the pension agency's solvency.

The committee will subpoena acting Fund administrator or designee, and financial records relevant to employer and employee contributions from the Fund and Finance.

LB staffers are also asked to produce print media coverage of the issue, among other things.

On Friday, the committee adopted three articles of impeachment relating to Fitial's failure to appoint a Supreme Court chief justice and members of the Civil Service Commission and the Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications Commission.

This is the first time in CNMI history that a resolution to impeach the governor was introduced and reviewed by a special committee.

the officers and medics to extricate the security guard from the vehicle using Jaws of Life.

Jaws of Life is a huge tool used to free people from mangled vehicles and burning and collapsed buildings.

Saipan Tribune learned that prior to the accident, the guard reported to work at Joeten Hafa Adai Shopping Center in western Garapan. It was not clear whether he attended a party before picking up his wife from work.

The couple has two children—ages 8 and 10 years old.

The security guard is the fifth fatality in a car crash in the CNMI this year.

Last June 23, three brothers died when a pickup truck they were driving swerved and smashed into a makeshift garage along Isa Drive between the Capital Hill and Santa Lourdes area. Investigators determined that alcohol was involved in the crash.

On March 28, 2012, a motorist died after he reportedly suffered a heart attack, causing his vehicle to swerve on Beach Road in Susupe and struck two vehicles that were parked at the Joeten Center compound.

KILLED

From Page 1

yet to release information about the accident to the media.

Saipan Tribune learned that Rajesh picked up his wife from her work in Susupe and that they were heading home south direction aboard a Toyota Echo on Beach Road when the accident happened.

Witnesses said they heard a loud screeching sound of a vehicle followed by a loud boom.

Apparently, the car swerved on the shoulder of the road and proceeded to a vacant lot next to the former Pacific Gardenia Hotel.

The car then rammed into a tarpaulin sign for Sandy Beach Homes, before it slammed into a concrete wall on the side of the Silver Hotel building.

The strong impact shattered the concrete fence measuring about 3 to 4 feet.

Responding police officers and medics first removed the wife from the wrecked vehicle.

Witnesses said it took a while for

Hundreds on Saipan take part in 27th coastal cleanup

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An estimated 900 to 950 community members on island volunteered Friday and Saturday for the 27th Annual International Coastal Cleanup, and hundreds more are expected to take part on Rota and Tinian this weekend.

Nicole Schafer, Saipan coordinator for the coastal cleanup, said yesterday that the volunteers collected trash from 25 different areas on island in support of the world's largest volunteer effort to help protect oceans and waterways.

Schafer, also the education and outreach coordinator for the Coastal Resources Management, said it was "great" that this year's turnout exceeded their projected number of participants, which was set

» Rota and Tinian set cleanup this weekend

between 500 and 600.

She noted that majority of the volunteers were from private organizations, and only a handful were from government agencies and educational institutions.

"We got the turnout we're hoping for. Hopefully, we can beat it next year and get more people," Schafer told *Saipan Tribune*.

While the data from last weekend's cleanup have yet to be compiled, hopefully by the end of the week, Schafer disclosed that the cigarettes still make up a bulk of the trash that were collected.

She also revealed that volunteers were saying that there was less trash in this year's cleanup "but I won't know that for sure until we get the weigh-in."

"If it is, that's great," said Schafer. "That's exactly the news

we want to hear, that there's less trash. But the trash we collected, we need to make sure it doesn't reach the shoreline."

Schafer said they are aiming

for 500 volunteers on Rota and at least 300 on Tinian to join their scheduled coastal cleanup this Friday and Saturday.

She said interested residents

of the two islands can still sign up and volunteer for the coastal cleanup by logging on to www.signupcleanup.org.

Schafer urged the public to

continue doing their share in protecting the environment.

"We need to work on taking care of our area and cleaning up after ourselves," she said.

4 persons arrested for alleged various offenses

Police arrested over the weekend four persons for allegedly committing various offenses on Saipan.

The defendants are Franklin Crisostomo, 32; Lionel Borja, 33; Eduardo Gabito Jr., 33; and Juana A. Pua, 48. They were all taken to the Superior Court yesterday for bail hearing.

Crisostomo were charged with theft by deception after he allegedly used fake Russian Rubles in purchasing

several items at Duty Free Shoppers in Garapan on Aug. 24, 2012.

Borja was charged with assault and battery, and disturbing the peace for allegedly driving his car recklessly in the parking of American Memorial Park on the night of Sept. 2, 2012. The defendant then also allegedly punched and kicked a man who shouted at him to slow down.

Gabito was charged with

indecent exposure and disturbing the peace for allegedly showing his privates to his female co-worker while he was intoxicated inside her room in San Antonio on Thursday night.

Pua was charged with assault with a dangerous weapon, child abuse, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace for allegedly assaulting her minor daughter with a back scratcher at their residence in Tanapag

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2 sue over appointment of Farrell as Tinian Gaming commissioner

Former Commonwealth Ports Authority board member Raynaldo M. Cing and 13th Tinian Municipal Council member Patrick A. Manglona filed yesterday a lawsuit over the alleged illegal and unethical appointment and confirmation of Don A. Farrell as a commissioner on the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission.

Cing filed the lawsuit for himself and on behalf of NMI taxpayers, while Manglona brought the lawsuit in his official capacity.

Cing and Manglona are suing Farrell, Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz, Tinian Department of Public Works deputy director and 13th Tinian Municipal Council member Estevan P. Cabrera, and Tinian Department of Land and Natural Resources deputy director and 13th Tinian Municipal Council member Joseph SN. Cruz.

Cing is suing defendants Dela Cruz, Cabrera, and Cruz for taxpayer's right of action: illegal expenditure of public funds, and breach of fiduciary duty.

Cing and Manglona are suing Mayor Dela Cruz for breach of trust.

The plaintiffs are seeking a declaratory relief and injunction against all defendants.

Saipan Tribune tried but failed to contact the defendants for comment.

The plaintiffs, through counsel Ramon K. Quichocho, asked the Superior Court to declare the appointment and confirmation of Farrell as illegal and unethical, and therefore null and void.

Cing and Manglona asked the court to declare that Mayor Dela Cruz violated the Government Ethics Code Act (Ferdie de la Torre)

when he appointed his brother-in-law Farrell to serve as a commissioner on the Gaming Commission.

Quichocho said Mayor Dela Cruz violated the Gaming Initiative by failing to publish within 45 days, in a newspaper, a list of qualified candidates that includes "nominees from all Tinian political parties which were registered with the Commonwealth Board of Elections."

Quichocho said Cabrera and Cruz failed to exercise due diligence before confirmation as Farrell is "of questionable moral character."

The lawyer said Farrell conflicted himself from making any decisions with regards to casino investor Neo Goldwings Paradise because he went with Mayor Dela Cruz on an all-expenses-paid trip to Korea at the expense of New Goldwings Paradise.

The plaintiffs requested the court to issue a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction to stop Farrell from performing as a Gaming commissioner pending the resolution and final disposition of this lawsuit.

Quichocho said Mayor Dela Cruz appointed Farrell for a full six-year term as Gaming commissioner on Sept. 4, 2012.

Quichocho said that, on Sept. 10, 2012, Cing objected to the alleged unethical and illegal appointment of Farrell for the Gaming Commission.

The lawyer said that, three days later, without properly addressing the legal concerns pointed out by Cing, Cabrera and Cruz purportedly confirmed Farrell's appointment at another venue that was not announced.

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COE wants deeper analysis why students fail placement tests

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Education Commission Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D, wants an in-depth analysis conducted on the data gathered by Northern Marianas College which disclosed that a high percentage of students entering college failed their placement tests.

Most of these students ended up enrolling in non-degree units for remedial courses.

Sablan acknowledged to *Saipan Tribune* that the Public School System and the Board of Education were informed and provided data showing how students performed in the placement test and their retention rate for remedial education.

The commissioner described these

» PSS implements common core state standards to better prepare HS students

statistics as "key" to PSS, but pointed out the importance of an in-depth analysis of the data so that PSS would know what it needs to articulate and teach students so when students leave PSS, they will be successful in college placement examinations.

Before the end of every school year, PSS conducts assessment examination called Standard-Based Assessment test to also measure the knowledge gained by students in the whole school year. Sablan described the SBA results as high, satisfactory, and improves every year.

When asked about the possible reason behind the failure of many high school students in college placement tests, the commissioner admitted being unsure of the factors, but she hinted some other reasons that probably con-

tribute in the performance of students.

She said that students may be nervous while taking the test, others may be taking it not seriously, students may not also totally understand the importance of the placement test, and the long gap when the student last attended high school.

"If the data is saying that 30 percent of our students [are] not passing the test, we need to do our job in doing an in-depth analysis so we will have better idea what are the factors [of their failure] and which area we need to improve," commissioner told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that there are an estimated 200 to 300 PSS students who enter NMC every school year.

Sablan added that a better way to help address the problem is for PSS to be fully informed about the "kind of tests" to be conducted by the college so

they can better prepare the students.

"Besides having an in-depth analysis of the data, interview among students could also be an important factor to determine why they are failing," she said, adding that the "gap" between when they graduated high school and the time they took the placement test must also be known for better planning.

When asked if the quality of teaching received by high school students impacts their failure in the NMC placement test, the commissioner cannot immediately say, citing several variables that need to be looked at in conducting an assessment.

But Sablan is confident that with the implementation this school year of "common core state standards" in public schools, this would help address the concern. She described the common



Sablan

core state standards as rigorous instructions that are considered college-career standards and are also research-based.

"I do hope that now that we're implementing the common core state standards which is actually college-career standard, we hope to see our students continually progress in math, English, and language arts as they go to college," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Rota prepares for annual fiesta

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The island of Rota is gearing up for its annual San Francisco de Borja Fiesta celebration on Oct. 6 and 7.

Lorenzo A. Barcina, overall general committee chair for the festivities, said yesterday that their group is now busy preparing the event venue at Rota's Roundhouse field.

"We're now clearing the area to accommodate local residents and guests during the fiesta," Barcina said in a phone interview.

According to Barcina, the fiesta committee has lined up several activities and events for the community to enjoy.

The celebration is set to kick off on the evening of Sept. 28 when the nightly rosary will be offered to mark the beginning of the 9-day novena in honor of the island's patron saint.

By Oct. 1, the fiesta grounds will be opened to the public for the planned nightly activities which include karaoke competition for children and adults, said Barcina.

Local performing groups

There will also be booths offering food and other merchandise at the fiesta grounds. Barcina disclosed that four vendors have already confirmed their participation in the event.

On Oct. 6, the last day of the novena, there will be a procession followed by the traditional feast. The fiesta celebration will conclude the next day with a family picnic and a raffle draw that would give away cash prizes, including the grand prize of \$1,500.

All raffle draw prizes have been donated, noted Barcina.

"We're inviting everyone from Guam, Saipan, and Tinian to join us in celebrating our fiesta. Hopefully, there won't be problems with the flights in those days," Barcina told *Saipan Tribune*.

Rota Mayor Melchor Mendiola, in a separate interview Friday, said that anticipated tourists for the fiesta will be flown to the island by Freedom Air.

"Unfortunately, with their bigger planes down, they will be using smaller ones," said Mendiola, adding that they are in communication with Star Marianas which is willing to provide charter flights to Rota during the fiesta.

Mendiola urged the public to take a break out of their busy schedule and take part in this year's San Francisco de Borja Fiesta to enjoy Rota's peaceful atmosphere and island hospitality.

"I wish those who come regularly for the fiesta will join us again this year. We do our best to make our yearly fiesta an enjoyable experience for them," added Barcina.

For more information, call 532-9461.



FERDIE DE LA TORRE
U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona, newly appointed CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Alejandro C. Castro, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services officer Diane Zedde (extreme right, front row) join the 16 newest U.S. citizens for a group photo after yesterday's naturalization ceremony.

US citizenship conferred on 16 CNMI residents

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_deletorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

For Rosebellah Jerop Smith, of Kenya, obtaining her U.S. citizenship after being on Saipan since 2006 doing humanitarian work is meaningful.

"I'm proud to be an American," the 38-year-old Smith told *Saipan Tribune* shortly after she and 15 others took their oath to become the newest U.S. citizens during yesterday's naturalization ceremony held at the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Smith is married to Dr. Joel Smith of the Commonwealth Health Center. She is currently the director of Empty Vessel Ministry Foundation.

Mrs. Smith said the foundation's mission is to raise funds to support children for their school supplies and orphans, women, and families in need on Saipan, Kenya, the Philippines, and Bangladesh.

Mrs. Smith said now that she is a U.S. citizen she will be doing more humanitarian work not only on Saipan, but also in other countries.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona administered the oath to Mrs. Smith and

15 others.

The 15 other newest U.S. citizens are Loreto Millano Presto, Rosemarie Labusto Guirit, Eletra Morales Ritumalta, Xiaohua Jiang Kramer, Lolita Rubia Agulto, Jesus Santos Arriola, Mikie Mihara Chong, Cherry David Cope, Pushpadevi Mohan Hemlani, Margarita Decena Hofsneider, Amelia Vergara Mendiola, Roberto Laxamana Mendoza, Angelina Lumbas Pacala, Roberto Panotes Pacala, and Pattana Wetthaisong Raulerson.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services officer Diane Zedde presented to the court the 16 petitioners, who are originally from the Philippines, People's Republic of China, India, Kenya, Japan, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Thailand.

One candidate—Xin Mei Zeng—failed to attend the ceremony.

Invited students from the Public School System observed the special ceremony. Acting Chief Justice Alejandro C. Castro served as the guest speaker.

For 67-year-old Loreto Millano Presto, acquiring U.S. citizenship means easier off-island travel and getting more benefits.

Presto, a native of Tarlac, Philippines, is currently working as a warehouse worker at Yaong Wholesale Corp. He came to Saipan on May 23, 1989 as a construction worker. He married Antonia Aldan in 2004.

"I'm happy and proud to be a U.S. citizen," Mr. Presto said.

Xiaohua Jiang Kramer, 37, of China, said she feels very excited with the oath-taking and was also very emotional after being conferred U.S. citizenship.

Kramer said she is very lucky and privilege to live in a country like the U.S.

Kramer completed college at the Guangzhou University and came to Saipan to work as a translator/interpreter in 2004. She was married in 2007.

For 68-year-old Eletra Ritumalta, to be a U.S. citizen is overwhelming because it's a dream come true for her.

Ritumalta, a native of Pangasinan, Philippines, arrived on the island in 1990 to work as a food assembler.

Ritumalta's husband, Salvador Ritumalta, a Filipino, became a U.S. citizen because he came to the island in 1973 and thus, covered by the Covenant. The couple have two children,

both also U.S. citizens.

For Rosemarie Guirit, a legal secretary, "there is nothing impossible in America just like God."

"It's a meaningful one for me," said the 38-year-old Guirit, a native of Surigao Del Sur, Philippines.

"I'm happy, emotional. It's a joyful day," she said.

Guirit said with her new citizenship it will be easier to travel. She, however, acknowledged that along with the citizenship comes great responsibility too.

"We also have to give and serve," she said, adding whatever a person's citizenship or status in life, "everyone is equal before the eyes of God."

Guirit first came to the island in February 1997 to work as a kitchen helper in a restaurant. She married in 2001, but eventually got divorced. Her child is now 13 years old.

Yesterday's ceremony was part of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' annual celebration of Constitution and Citizenship days.

More than 32,000 candidates will become citizens at 158 ceremonies across the country from Sept. 14 to 22, 2012.

More specialists needed for PSS students with disabilities

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Only nine educational psychologists, behavioral specialist, and speech and occupational therapists are taking care of the needs of nearly 100 children with disabilities in the CNMI Public School System, according to PSS special education program director/coordinator Suzanne Lizama. She said 903 students with disabilities are currently enrolled in public schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota and the number of students with special needs continue to grow. The program, for instance, ended last school year with an enrollment of 840.

Lizama told *Saipan Tribune* that there are only nine specialists currently onboard the program, which is made up of four educational psycholo-

gists, one behavioral specialist, two speech therapists, and two occupational therapists.

Moreover, the program has only 35 highly qualified teachers and 80 teacher aides. With the figure, she disclosed that the highest teacher-to-students ratio is 1:10, but most schools have one special education teacher for every seven students with disabilities.

Although she described the current ratio as still "OK," Lizama admitted that she wants to lessen the ratio by employing more highly qualified teachers in classroom than getting additional teacher aides, who are non-degree holders or lack needed certification for the program.

According to Lizama, the program needs at least six more specialists in the following areas—speech therapy, occupational therapy, and educational psychology.

She admitted that for many years, the program's biggest challenge is getting the right number of qualified specialists on island. As a result, she said the program is left with no choice but to be creative in finding ways to get the needed expertise for the students.

Lizama disclosed that this school year, a \$200,000 contract was inked for two online specialists who will conduct "tele-therapy" sessions across all schools. This new method was tested four years ago and was proven successful in

the CNMI. Because of these two new contracts, it brings to four the total number of speech therapists serving PSS students with disabilities.

Special education also has only two occupational therapists and is in the process of recruiting two more—one for babies and one for the school-aged population.

Two psychology experts are also needed by the program, to add to the existing four onboard. Special education has also only one behavioral specialist and is trying to find an additional expert to serve the increasing student population.

Lizama admitted that the current economic hardship and other uncertainties in the Commonwealth are also affecting PSS' recruitment ef-



Lizama

orts to get specialists from off-island. She admitted that the program also lost some personnel due to the same reason.

Because most program FTEs are funded by federal dollars amounting to \$4.7 million this year, Lizama pointed out that "funding" for the needed specialists is not the

problem, but finding the qualified personnel is.

Lizama disclosed that even the special education program receives federal funding for the needs of students with disabilities and personnel salaries. The local funding problem of PSS is also affecting the program's operations because they too are being serviced by PSS' bus transportation and salaries of teacher aides are also sourced from the local budget.

MTEC annual membership meeting on Sept. 20

The Marianas Tourism Education Council invites all interested individuals to its annual general membership meeting on Sept. 20, 2012, at 3:30pm at the Marianas Visitors Authority office on Beach Road, Oleai. Election of officers will also take place.

MTEC is gearing up for its next round of educational presentations at Northern Marianas public and private schools this school year, as well as the next MTEC Tourism Summit for MY WAVE (Welcome All Visitors Enthusiastically) Clubs.

"We're very excited about the positive response we're receiving from students—and the community at large—about

(MVA)

IN MEETING FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

'Lack of permanent director does not put HPO at risk'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin Faisao maintained that the lack of a permanent director for the Historic Preservation Office does not put the organization at risk with respect to any federal requirements.

Faisao confirmed via email that HPO is currently run by acting director Mertie Kani, who has been with the office for more than 20 years as federal program coordinator.

With Kani's experience, she is "very well-versed" in meeting the goals and objectives of

HPO and is accustomed to coordinating with both local and federal regulatory agencies to address issues and work on the projects of the office, said Faisao.

Established under Public Law 3-39, HPO aims to ensure the identification and protection of significant archaeological, historic, and cultural resources in the Commonwealth; educate the public about local history, archaeology, culture and historic preservation; and develop historic and cultural properties.

According to Faisao, Kani consults with and is directly answerable to the DCCA secretary who is the appointed state historic preservation officer overseeing the HPO program.

Faisao revealed that efforts to hire a full-time director and other positions within HPO have been pushed back due to lack of funding.

He said that pursuant to the grant conditions they received from the National Park Service, their federal grantor, they had an initiative to meet the maintenance of effort requirement for fiscal year 2013.

However, the Senate through its version of the FY2013 budget slashed DCCA's funding

by about 29 percent without taking into account the negative impact of their action on the department's maintenance of effort requirements, said Faisao.

He pointed out that federal funds received by DCCA from its federal grantor cannot be utilized outside of its approved scope of activities such as funding for staff salaries.

Faisao argued that by doing this, the Senate failed to prioritize or recognize the needs of low-income families, elders, disabled, young children, and the economically disadvantaged members of the community.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP12-OHS-109 (DPS-FIRE)**

SUBMISSION: OCTOBER 17, 2012 **TIME: 2:00 P.M.**

"DELIVERY OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TECHNICIAN AND SPECIALIST INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES FOR THE CNMI DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY-FIRE DIVISION"

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE DRIVE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. CARL DELA CRUZ, OHS PROCUREMENT OFFICER BY E-MAIL TO ohs.delacruz@gmail.com NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, OCTOBER 04, 2012.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ MARVIN K. SEMAN
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI) is soliciting proposals for the financial and compliance audit for fiscal year ending September 30, 2012. NMPASI is the designated, federally funded protection and advocacy system for persons with disabilities in the CNMI. NMPASI uses a variety of individual and systems advocacy approaches to protect people's right, including legal and administrative remedies, legislative, policy change and trainings. Proposals for the financial and compliance audit shall be submitted to NMPASI, P.O. Box 503529, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than September 28, 2012. The audit shall be performed in compliance with the following guidelines:

1. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards;
2. OMB Circular A-133; and
3. Compliance with the General Requirements Applicable to Federal Financial Assistance Program.

Award will be based on specific factors such as prior experience, technical competence, ability to meet the deadline and price in this order. The contract for this audit will be awarded no later than October 19, 2012. The audit work shall commence by December 30, 2012, and a final audit report shall be completed by March 15, 2013. A list of specific audit requirements and Agency's profile are available at NMPASI office, Gualo Rai. Any questions regarding this matter can be addressed to Mr. James Rayphand, Executive Director at Tel. No. 235-7274/7273.

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Prince William, Kate meet with Pacific youth

HONIARA, Solomon Islands— Prince William, the Duke of Cambridge, has praised youth involved in the Commonwealth Youth Programme in a special royal visit to the Commonwealth Pacific Youth Leadership and Integrity Conference.

Prince William gave a short speech to the 40 youth representatives at the conference, run by the Commonwealth Youth Programme's Pacific Centre as part of its work to engage and empower young people (ages 15-29) and enhance their contribution to development.

He said: "I find it inspirational that young people like you, coming from all over the South Pacific, have chosen to become involved with the Commonwealth. We are its heirs and

successors. We must take on the responsibility, the mantle of leadership for the future. I applaud you for being here, and I wish you well in your work in Honiara over these days.

"What you are doing, and the friendships that you make, are critical for your future as young leaders, both in your own countries and in the global family that is the Commonwealth."

The Duke also presented six young people with Gold Duke of Edinburgh awards: Bryan Anga, Hudson Oeta, Harry James Olikwailafa, Ray Richard, Ashley Watson from Solomon Islands, and Rebecca Solomon from Vanuatu.

Commonwealth Youth Programme Regional Director, Pacific, Afu Billy said: "It is

an honor to host the Duke and Duchess with us at the start of the Commonwealth Pacific Youth Leadership and Integrity Conference. The Royal couple are an inspiration to young people in the Commonwealth. We are delighted about the Duke of Cambridge's comments that he has been inspired by the young leaders he met in Honiara."

Prince William paid tribute to the value of the Commonwealth, saying: "We are, more than ever before, a global community. The Commonwealth reminds us of what we have in common, what our responsibilities to one another are, without this ability to cross the boundaries of nationhood, race and creed, humanity in the future would find it very

much harder to advance toward greater harmony and sustainable co-existence."

Forty young Pacific Leaders are here in Honiara, Solomon Islands for a weeklong Commonwealth Pacific Youth Leadership and Integrity Conference. They represent 14 Pacific countries: Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, New Zealand, Marshall Islands, Niue, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

The Conference will build the leadership skills of young people and focus on democracy, parliament, leadership models, conflict resolution and effective communication.

The conference ends Saturday, Sept. 22. (PR)

New appointments within Tan Holdings' hotel arm

Jeffrey W. Schweizer has been appointed president of Asia Pacific Hotels, Inc. effective Sept. 11, according to Jerry Tan, president of Tan Holdings and parent company for APHI, last week. Further appointments within APHI are the assignments of Abner Acosta as the resident manager of the Fiesta Resort and Spa-Saipan, and Mark Ratliff as the resident manager of the Kanoa Resort Saipan.

Schweizer joined Asia Pacific Hotels in April of 2005 as general manager to reopen and rebrand the former Dai-Ichi Hotel. This historic beachfront property underwent an extensive renovation opening with its new name, Fiesta Resort Guam.

Schweizer relocated to Guam

in 1989 when he joined the Pacific Islands Club where he worked for 16 years. During his tenure he worked in the capacity of the EAM Rooms Division director and, for 10 years, director of Food and Beverage. Previous to Guam, Schweizer worked on Miami's famed South Beach. A native of New England, Schweizer is a 30-year veteran of the hospitality industry. Schweizer has served numerous terms as a GHRA board member and is currently serving as first vice chairman. He is also currently serving as board member on the Employers Council.

"With Jeffrey's tenure and experience in the hotel industry, and now in his new role as president of APHI, we are confident that he will continue to nurture the properties in our portfolio and ensure we remain competitive," said Tan.

"I am extremely excited to be taking on this new role. APHI has proven itself in operating high quality hotels and delivering great guest experiences," said Schweizer. "I look forward to working even more closely with the property managers in further developing and growing the brands while delivering superior financial operating results."

Acosta and Ratliff are familiar with Saipan operations and the community they will be working in. Acosta started his career with APHI in 2004 as reservations manager at the Fiesta Saipan then moved to Fiesta Guam as

an executive assistant manager in 2006. Subsequent to his role as director of Engineering of the Fiesta Resort Guam, Ratliff held the same position at Pacific Islands Club Saipan. While in Guam both men assisted the Saipan properties on many occasions and are familiar with both regions. Both will report to Schweizer on all facets of their hotel's operations and provide support as needed to other APHI properties in Guam and Saipan.

Headquartered on Saipan, APHI owns and operates the 318-room Fiesta Resort Guam, 416-room Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, 224 rooms in the recently renovated Kanoa Resort Saipan, and Century Hotel, a 33-room business hotel in Saipan. (PR)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
A year ago you were just born and now you are one! Happy first birthday, my precious son, Kai'po Francisco Camacho! I promise you my little boy that I will be there to guide your way. I love you unconditionally with every passing day. Mommy loves you and you're my No. 1!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy 14th birthday to Riva Luisa Taman! May God bless you and may you have many more birthdays to come! We love you always "Reeb"! From the entire family, but most especially the two little rascals, L.J. Boy, and Lisa.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Belated happy birthday to Analina Belle Del Rosario who celebrated her third birthday last Sept. 16 at Shirley's Coffee Shop in Susupe.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Belated happy birthday to Justin Pangelinan who celebrated his eighth birthday last Sept. 16 at Shirley's Coffee Shop in Susupe.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy 88th birthday to Alfonso Cabrera Reyes (Julio) aka Tang! We love you Tang! Greetings come from Ray, Marianne, MeMong, and Kiki Teregeyo.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Happy birthday to my daddy, Robert O. Lieto! May you have many more blessings in life! Love always, Zunia Lieto.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Belated happy 21st birthday greetings go out to Shirlene Naomi "Neiwarlugh" Camacho Laniyo, who celebrated her birthday on Sunday, Sept. 16. God bless you always and may you have many more birthdays to come. We love you always Shirshir! Greetings come from Kay, Ando, L.J. Boy, and Lisa.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Sept. 18, 2000

Telesource gets \$17-M Tinian airport rehab contract

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has formally decided to award the contract for the construction of the new \$17-million West Tinian International Airport runway to Telesource CNMI, Inc., which offered the lowest bid among six companies that proposed to carry out the project. The Federal Aviation Administration has recently concurred with the ports authority's decision to award the contract for the project to Telesource at \$16.9 million for the 8,600-linear-foot Tinian airport runway. "Your bid offer for the Alternative Bid Project of \$16,949,105 is being accepted by CPA as the contract amount. CPA has reviewed the bid proposal documents submitted by Telesource CNMI, Inc. and has found the bid proposal to be responsive," said Executive Director Carlos H. Salas.

House okays bill to boost postsecondary education

Saying the Northern Marianas College is a failure in developing local labor pool required to meet the islands' needs for economic development, the House of Representatives has moved to remove barriers against establishment of new colleges here. Legislation amending the statute that established the community college was passed by the lower house last Friday in a bid to encourage more postsecondary educational institutions to come into the CNMI. HB 12-192, sponsored by Speaker Benigno R. Fitial, seeks to limit NMC's powers to regulate the establishment of colleges as provided under existing laws.

Sept. 18, 2001

Budget revision near at hand

Belt-tightening measures being implemented by the CNMI government may yet become tougher, as the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2002 goes under review for a possible downward adjustment, in the wake of the downturn being seen in the tourism sector. Reeling from the one-two punch brought on by the terror attacks in the US mainland, government officials are now saying that the CNMI's tourism sector may not bring in the expected revenues it promised in the early part of the year, necessitating a review of the proposed \$233.84 million budget. "From the report we received from the Governor, it appears that the next couple of months would have a tremendous adverse effect on the revenue that we've been expecting. It doesn't look like the resources identified are realistic figure. So there's a need to adjust the revenue down," said Senate Floor Leader Pedro P. Reyes.

NMC lobbies for approval of funding bill

The Northern Marianas College is awaiting executive action on a pending legislation that would channel a portion of nonresident workers' fees to NMC's key educational programs. The college administration, in a letter addressed to Governor Pedro P. Tenorio, appealed for the approval of House Bill 12-361 which seeks to assure financial support to the college's crucial programs: the Nursing Program, the Work Experience Training Program, the Business and Hospitality Program, the School of Education and the Business Development Center. NMC believes the passage of the bill will benefit local students through expanded programs and courses. The legislation is also expected to encourage local residents to seek private sector employment as a result of acquired skills in the areas of health, hospitality and business.

Sept. 18, 2002

'Let's change the way of doing business in NMI'

In a tacit admission that doing business in the Commonwealth is becoming harder and harder, Gov. Juan N. Babauta said now is the time for the CNMI to change the way business is being done here. "I think that it is time that we change the way we do business here in the CNMI. We really need to reach out to potential investors and make it easier to do business here. We certainly want to streamline the bureaucratic process of doing business here," said the Governor. This effort would complement the government's drive to bring in more tourists into the Commonwealth and make the CNMI a favored destination both to tourists and investors, he added.

US Labor mulls more education, less enforcement

The U.S. Labor Wage and Hour Division in Region IX has indicated its desire to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association that would refocus the division's goals here in the CNMI from enforcement toward educational outreach. This came soon after U.S. Labor Region IX administrator George Friday said that, although there are still some wage problems in some of the factories, these violations are minimal and isolated compared to previous ones. These violations include the eight garment firms on Saipan that were recently cited for violation of the federal overtime provisions of the federal Fair Labor and Standards Act.

Island Snapshots

Photos By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

PRO-IMPEACHMENT RALLY



A crowd supporting the impeachment of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial comes ready with their banners and posters near the Microtel intersection in San Jose on Sunday morning to afternoon.



Leila Staffler, left, and other pro-impeachment individuals wave to passing motorists on Sunday.



▲ Their posters and banners say it all.



Lily Manalili, the woman who weeks ago stood alone along the road leading to and from Capital Hill holding this sign, serves as inspiration to many supporting the governor's impeachment.



ANTI-IMPEACHMENT RALLY



Fitial supporters look to deliver a message to lawmakers.



Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, seated second from left, waves to the crowd as Corrections Commissioner Ray Mafnas and supporters look on at a pro-Fitial rally at Minatchom Atdao in Susupe on Sunday.



Division of Environmental Quality director Frank Rabauliman holds a "Support Fitial" sign along with other Fitial supporters.



First lady Josie Fitial, second from left, joins the pro-Fitial crowd along Beach Road in Susupe.



Former attorney general Matthew Gregory, right, joins Fitial supporters on Sunday.

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXII, Issue No. 222

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Ignorance meets intolerance in a tragedy

Men never do evil so completely and so cheerfully as when they do it from religious conviction. That famous epigram was found in the notes left by the 17th-century French mathematician and philosopher Blaise Pascal, who was preparing a defense of the Christian faith when he died in 1662. The evils wrought by Hitler and Stalin belie it. What happened in Libya on Tuesday suggests it still holds some truth.

Angered by a scurrilous video mocking the Prophet Muhammad, apparently filmed with the support of right-wing Christians, Libyan Muslims attacked the U.S. consulate in Benghazi. Among them, and perhaps inciting them, was a squad of well-armed Islamist militants. Four U.S. diplomats were killed, among them Ambassador J. Christopher Stevens.

The protests quickly spread to Egypt, where the U.S. Embassy was overrun, but without casualties. On Wednesday the protests spread to Yemen, Tunisia, Iraq and Iran. The Quran, while not explicitly forbidding visual depictions of Muhammad, makes it clear that his name and image are to be honored. Some supplemental teachings are stricter, and in some Muslim sects, the faithful rise up in what they see as righteous anger.

Which is, of course, what some Christianist sects in this country do in opposition to the Muslim faith. Christians and Muslims have been killing each other in God's name since the 7th century. Reason does not signify.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton asked an important question Wednesday morning in eulogizing Mr. Stevens: "Today, many Americans are asking—indeed, I asked myself—how could this happen? How could this happen in a country we helped liberate, in a city we helped save from destruction? This question reflects just how complicated and, at times, how confounding the world can be."

Many people don't do well with complicated and confounding issues. The ill-educated youth of some Islamic nations prefer simple fervor. Many of the supposedly better-educated citizens in the Western world, who have less excuse, prefer simple answers, too, even if they're wrong.

What is inexcusable, however, is that a sophisticated, well-educated man like Mitt Romney—a Mormon who has known the ugliness of religious intolerance—would try to politicize this tragedy.

In days to come, President Barack Obama, who vowed Tuesday to work with the Libyan government to bring "justice" to those responsible for the deaths of Mr. Stevens and his colleagues, will have some complicated, perhaps confounding, decisions to make.

The United States long has reserved the right to levy a "proportional response" to attacks on U.S. interests. With the advent of unmanned attack planes, Mr. Obama has options that were unavailable to his 43 predecessors. He doesn't have to send Marines to the shores of Tripoli.

When someone in Libya identifies the killers—and someone will—Mr. Obama will have to decide whether to kill them or let Libya deal with them. The first option will play better at home; the second may be better for long-term U.S. interests in the Arab world. Actions have consequences. So do elections.



September 18

(APOLOGIES: We earlier noted that the producer of the now widely condemned film, *The Innocence of Muslims*, Californian Sam Bacile is Jewish. It turns out he is Coptic Christian Nakoula Basseley Nakoula. We discovered the error of our haste a few hours after our deadline. We regret the error.)

We know it in Western history books as the Incident at Mukden. On Sept. 18, 1931, the railway station in Mukden was mysteriously bombed. The railway station was built and run by the Japanese who looked on Manchuria of the Manchus as not really an integral part of China and, like the French occupation of North and West Africa, it was open territory for Japanese migration and resource exploitation.

China's nationalist forces were too preoccupied with internal matters that included feudalistic warlords and the emerging proletariat, and since the Great Wall literally and figuratively terminated in Hebei south of Liaoning, momentarily losing control of Manchuria to the Japanese was momentarily shelved.

At the time, Inner and Outer Manchuria were already in turmoil. Internally, the Korean peninsula, once of the proud Kogoryo that extended from what is now Heilongjiang all the way to Jeju Do, was never really pacified by either the Hans nor the Nippons. Korea paid tribute to China but Japan was considered an occupying presence.

China's Manchus earlier ceded outer Manchuria (Vladivostok to Siberia) to Tsarist Russia whose expansionist propensities were curtailed by its fear of British hostility after the Crimea War, resulting in the sale of sparsely populated Alaska (save for the furry animals that were harvested into extinction), and the 1904 Kamikaze naval defeat. Far East Russia was nevertheless a power to contend with, and Manchuria (now called Dong Bei, the northeast) was the prize.

Shenyang, where we currently reside, was Mukden. A prominent huge stone tablet carved with the "September 18" marks the memorial to the incident in Mukden. Post-WWII Chinese are not familiar with the name "Mukden." Known as Shenyang, the capital city, to the Han, Mukden preceded Nurhachi, the founder of the Manchu line. The Russians and the Japanese called the city by its ancient name. After WWII, the city was renamed Shenyang.

Japanese aggression, represented by Sept. 18, to the Chinese, (*wu wang guo chi*, "never forget the national humiliation") is in the news again with the current Japanese government's declaration that it had bought the Senkaku (Japan)/Diaoyu (China) islands. Rightist Tokyo Gov. Shintaro Ishihara of Tokyo announced his intention to "buy" and develop the islands, and his move was preempted by the national government that "bought" the islands with the declared purpose of administering it in accordance with the U.S.-Japan treaty that included the islands. China never recognized the treaty and lodged a claim with the UN.

European colonists in the 19th century nibbled at China's territory. Since the 1949 triumph of the CPC against the national-

By JAIME R. VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Former PSS teacher Jaime Vergara now teaches at Hang Gong Hang Tian Da Zue, Shenyang Aerospace University and is currently traveling in north Inner Mongolia in the prefecture of Hulunbeier.



ists, China has asserted its historic boundaries, though willing to recognize existing legal contracts such as the lease agreements between the Qing Dynasty and Portugal on Macao (*Aomen*), and with England on Hong Kong (*Xianggang*). It foregoes as well previous areas of influence. Vietnam (occupied by the Yue people since the Han dynasty, still called *Yuenan* in China, until the Le revolt mid-1400 and declared its independence) but colonized by France (which then claimed patrimony over the Spratley and the Paracel Islands), and North Korea (still called *Bei Han*) that was heavily influenced by China until the Mongol invasion but went on to establish independence during the Joseon rule, subsequently occupied by Japan until the end of WWII, were once Chinese territories.

The history of the Nansei (Ryukyu) islands reverting back to Japan came as a result of the close ties that developed between victorious WWII America (with its guilt over Hiroshima and Nagasaki) and resurgent nationalist Japan that served the logistical needs of the U.S. forces in the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Though Japan's history traces early migration from the southern islands of Nansei in the peopling of Japan, what has now become the Ryukyu group (the name comes from the Mandarin *Liuqiu* used as early as the 600 AD), and popularly called Okinawa in the West, has mixed standing in socially stratified Japanese society. Okinawans often complain as being treated like second-class cousins.

A peace treaty was signed in SF '71 between Japan and the United States ceding the previously U.S. administered Ryukyu Islands to Japan. Unfortunately, it included islands that are physically part of Taiwan rather than the Ryukyus, recorded in ancient geographical charts as part of China.

A resurgent China finally has the wherewithal to show military muscle this week in mapping out baseline data in support of its claim and is now causing political and economic ripples in China-Japan relations. Protests among local Chinese also got violent over the weekend.

Though China emphasizes that its objection is not directed against the Japanese people but to its government policy, the Sept. 18 sentiment is once again reviving anti-Japanese response among its people.

But beyond the historic animosity, the real reasons are abundant oil and minerals, with both claimants disguising the conflict as a fight over fishing rights. Duh!

Tasin Pasifiku

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



Gi kada pumasehu-yu' entalu' Oleai yan Garapan, gaige gi sanlagu un' pasifiku na tasi, katma na disposition 'nai matata'choñg. I pasifiku na fatachoñgña muna' ma'agim sentimentoghu ni umatisa sensian esperansa pot futtunan tautau-ta.

Hu kakanta "Ti gi un' palasyun I riku" sessu 'an sigeyu' mona. I gumu'ot mas attensionhu ayu na patte 'nai ilegña i kanta, "Ya ti siña hu tulaika sa tat mas gefsaga, kumu ayu siha na islas I islas Marianas". Estague' na islas 'nai manmafañagu hit ya este 'nai u sagsa todou malago'ta.

Katma 'sino mattiempo debi ta estira pinasensiata gi satbasion haf' muna' fan chachatsaga hit. Huñgan ha palo'pu' hit pineduñg ekonomian gi enteru elmundu. Lau este mafattu gi tanu' gi kada sien (100) años. Taimanu minesñgon guelu, maila ta fan apipet gi hilu ko'operasion sa' siempre ta satba todou problemata.

Doble Na Dañu Dumestrosia Hit

Dos poduñg halige muna' tailaye i ekonomian iya Marianas. I hin-

lom federat 'nai ha manda immigrasion yan sueddu 'nos kuantos años malofan. Pinalo'pu' este ni man-dañosu siha na areglu ni inapprueban lehislatura kontra i komunitan bisnis. Fuetsau, mas ke siete biyon pesus (\$7 billion) na salape' kometsiante ginen hiyoñg dumiñgu iya Marianas pot man-baban areglu siha.

Guaha mohon siña man-machogue pot para uma-ataha i taya' salape' gi kahan iya Marianas? Siña ha' ta sañgan suspichosu na inepen "huñgan" lau kaiha para estake u siña guaha dañkulu na adelantu guine na patte. I kometsiante ni dumiñgu tano'ta manhanau guatu gi ayu siha na tanu' giya Asia 'nai mas lagse' areglun niha gi bandan bisnis.

Nachatsaga sa' i guaguan kandet ni umafuetsas mahuchum megai na bisnis guine. Areglu ni fuma' kontrariu i bisnis dumulalag kantida ginen este. Dañkulu dinidahu na u fanalag mage talu i esta man-hanau.

Este na mattiru mas muna' kohu i kahan iya Marianas. Sige pagu i man-sabiu siha gi Deni' man-ñgaha' hulu' gi lañget. . Kulan mananañga finattun ruplanun piau para u ta'lun yumute' mas regalu ginen i lañget para'isu. Ti umasusede! Mientras tantus, mas matmus iya Marianas gi tadtuñg na tasin dibi. Dañkulu na kontrariu!

Lugat pañglau echuñg

Malolofanyu' un' lemlim tautau gi katan Hyatt Regency 'nai hu li'e i hagas lugat pañglau echuñg antes. I propiu lugat esta inadotna ni manadan flores yan an' pesun akitran. Gi lamlam tampen makinan karetahu estabu un' ma'lag kandet. Hagas ayu na lugat 'nai 'in figu' sapatus mame dispues de 'in rompe i fina' sionsyan.

I dañkulun hotel dumisplanta petmanente hagas lugat mame mane'pañglau. Mafnas i hagas in' fa'tototchen familia piof gi tiempun ha'ilas. Hu sugun karetahu para bai' lie' kau guaha mohon man-

malalagu guatu gi halom cha'guan. Taya! Guiya i hulili'e pagu i mafanana' an "adelantun" modetnu na Marianas. Gi mismu tiempu ha funas i hagas lugat mame pañglau echuñg. Megai man-sinatba guhe na tiempu piof gi hinanau i Navy guine.

■■■

I fina' luñu giya Sadog Tasi siña umesuette hau pañglau. Gigon lumatkatan hau adahe sa' guaha masuspecha mayute' PCB na amot guhe. Binenu para i tautau ayu na kosas. Suhaye ya un' latkatan gi sionsyan iya Tanapag. Lastima sa' i modetnu na modun linala'ta yumulañg gi mismu tiempu hagas lugat totchen natibu.

■■■

I Sabanan Tano'ta

Gaige un' manadan gapgap, gaddu' yan dagun kalulot (daggun apaka') gi fina sabana siha gi todu isla guine. Piniloghu na lugat troñku yan neti pat sakaten kabayu. Hu lie' 'nai sessuyu' 'un tiempu umebinadu punta pot punta na abundansia este siha na fina' aguon Chamorro.

I gaddu' i mas riku na asientu gi halom todou tinanom. Pot essu na mas guaguan na attikulu ke asientun mendioka yan otru siha. Guaha un' atuñgo'hu fuma' bisnis asientun gaddu' pot mas ke dies años esta na tiempu. Sumen mauleg na bisnis deste ke ha tutuhon kumusecha asientun gaddu'.

I mendioka i mas sessu mafa' asientu. Ke chage mananum gadu' sa' mas benefisiosu asientoña. Dididi' na animu ha nesesita para un' tutuhon kumusecha un' tinanum ni hagas ta polu kumu tinanum machaleg gi halom tanu' siha.

■■■

I paire kumasadules siempre ha totpe hatsadun manog 'sino ba-buen halom tanu'. Maseha manu gi dos ya un' kone' siempre nina' mantika sekosmu gigon masa nina' lagumu. Piof ya masuette hau binadu. Mas paire sentadamu entalu' fritada yan kelaguen.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr. Sablan's 'Impeachment and impacts'

Mr. David M. Sablan, Sr., sir, with all due respect, the letter you wrote on the above subject, supposedly for "edification" of the public, was erroneous in several aspects. I do not wish to be "nit-picky" over your writing, especially from a well-known personality such as yourself. However, when information of such nature is proffered to the public in mass media, it should be researched first and then presented with verifiable facts and supporting references.

Therefore, with your understood permission, I would like to set the record straight regarding your statements, many of which are actually correct, but some of which fall far short of correctness.

Mr. Sablan: "The Articles of Impeachment is a list of specific actions of Governor Fitial that are allegedly violations of law." Sorry sir, but such articles DO NOT need to allege a violation of any particular law. In many cases, such articles will only relate to corruption or neglect of duty which may have no specific "law" to violate, but which, nonetheless are NOT in the public interest and may, in fact, do great harm to the public.

Mr. Sablan: "Only those articles that receive a positive simple majority vote are then sent to the Senate." Again, sir, the CNMI Constitution in Article II, Sect. 8, states: "Section 8: Impeachment. The Legislature may impeach those executive and judicial officers of the Commonwealth subject to impeachment under this Constitution. The House of Representatives may initiate impeachment proceedings by the **affirmative vote of two-thirds of its members** and the Senate may convict after hearing by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of its members."

I believe you may have confused the actions of the special committee (appointed by Rep. Eli Cabrera) whose rules of procedure expressly state that an article MAY be reported to the **House floor** from the committee by a simple majority vote of those members present and voting with those of the constitutional requirement. This misunderstanding becomes more apparent by your next statement: "Once the vote is over and one or several articles receive the simple majority vote of those House members present that constitute a quorum..." The public should know that any forwarding of such articles to the Senate requires a vote of 14 (two-thirds of the total House members).

Unfortunately, this past weeks' performance by a few House

members may serve to indicate that the House majority MAY decide to subvert their duty and simply not show up for any vote. Now, if you want to talk about "neglect of duty," that certainly qualifies by these childish legislators, many of whom also apparently do NOT understand their obligations and duties or the limits thereof under the Constitution.

Mr. Sablan: "A simple majority in the House is 11 votes." True, but as pointed out above, the Constitution requires a two-thirds vote and that is actually 13.334 votes—effectively "14"

Mr. Sablan: "Because of the serious nature of such a vote to remove a sitting governor, a two-thirds majority vote will be needed in the Senate. That number is seven votes." Once again, sir, a two-thirds majority of nine senators is "6" votes, not 7.

Mr. Sablan: "If the seven votes are reached, the governor is out of a job immediately, and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos becomes **acting** (emphasis added) governor, unless a special election is held to elect a new governor for the balance of the Fitial's term." This statement is false. The CNMI Constitution and CMC 6502 have this to say about the matter:

"Article III Section 7: Succession to the Governorship and Lieutenant Governorship.

In case of the removal, death, or resignation of the governor, the lieutenant governor **shall become governor and the president of the Senate shall become lieutenant governor** (emphasis added). If the offices of governor and lieutenant governor are both vacant, the **president of the Senate shall become acting governor and the speaker of the House shall become acting lieutenant governor** (emphasis added). An **acting** governor or lieutenant governor who assumes office when more than one year remains in the term may serve only until a governor or lieutenant governor is chosen in a special election **provided by law**."

CMC 6502:

"§ 6502. Special Elections Subject to the Call of the Governor.

(a) If a vacancy occurs in the Legislature, in the office of the governor or Lieutenant governor, or in the office of a mayor, **which under the Constitution requires an election** (emphasis added) to fill the vacancy or a recall petition is certified by the attorney general,

the governor shall call a special election to fill such vacancy.

(b) If the governor fails to call a special election within 30 days of a constitutional vacancy or the certification of a recall petition, any registered voter may petition the Election Commission to determine and certify that a vacancy requiring a special election exists or that a recall petition has been certified by the attorney general. Within 10 calendar days of receipt of a petition, the commission shall submit its determination to the governor. The governor shall issue a proclamation for a special election within five calendar days of receipt of a commission certification of vacancy or recall requiring a special election.

(c) If there are simultaneous vacancies in the offices of governor and lieutenant governor and less than one year remains from the date of the first vacancy, the Senate president shall be acting governor and the speaker of the House shall be acting lieutenant governor and both shall serve out the remainder of the terms of their respective offices. *(Additional sections to this statute do not apply to THIS impeachment proceeding)*

Mr. Sablan, I urge you to please read carefully these sections as many, including several legislators, do NOT understand or interpret them correctly. Under the Constitution, Lt. Gov. Inos will NOT become "**acting**" governor—he will be THE governor. ONLY in the case where the Senate president accedes to the office does the Constitution declare it as an "acting" position (along with the speaker of the House as "acting" lieutenant governor)

Please note that under section (a) of CMC 6502, ONLY if the Constitution requires an "election" will CMC 6502 be invoked. The law (CMC 6502) is predicated on constitutional requirements and does not stand alone. If the position is NOT in "acting" status (as above), CMC 6502 will not be invoked and there will be NO "special election." Mr. Inos will serve out the remainder of the term and Senate President Paul Manglona will assume the office of lieutenant governor for the duration. However, there WILL be a special election on Rota to fill the newly vacant Senate seat from that district.

Dr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr.
Winter Haven, FL

Are you sure you're doing the right thing?

The real problem we are facing is how are we going to make money. And I'm wondering what our leaders have been doing about it. Who do you think among our leaders are responsible for all the investments we are making and what did they do in the past? How many of these money making plans have they made? Well, they said casino is not the only way so, okay, let's hear your way.

Now with the impeachment, if you impeach Governor Fitial now, would they be able to find the solution to bringing in investors that would help us generate revenue? What are they going to do about the others leaders who are also practicing illegal businesses? I'm not saying that what the governor did is right but

there is a saying, "Whoever among you does not sin, cast the first stone."

How about the budget? Are they going to waste time on the impeachment first, or are they going to pass the budget so that there wouldn't be another shutdown?

Plus, now that House Bill 17-315 is law, what are our leaders doing to address this issue? Many active members are now waiting for direction. Could you please tell us where can we go to withdraw and to roll over our contributions?

While you're listening to those angry people who want to impeach si Governor, don't forget too to ask yourself: If we impeach Governor Fitial now, what gain are we going to have and what loss

are we going to face?

I'm concerned because he may be the only one looking for ways to make money so that we can survive. I might be wrong, but I don't see others doing the same thing. Only si Rep. Tenorio and Fitial are attempting to do something, and maybe it is wrong but everyone gets to have a share.

The government is broke and we need to find money and if the casino is all we have left, then why not? Take it or lose everything, when we run out of funds.

Winifreda Matsumoto
San Jose, Tinian

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 86° ▼ 78°	▲ 86° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota Thundershowers ▲ 86 ▼ 79		
Palau	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 76
Yap	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 76
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 75
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 75
Majuro	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 61 ▼ 49
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 56
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 79
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 73
London	Mostly Sunny	▲ 62 ▼ 44
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 65
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 78
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 64 ▼ 47
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 89 ▼ 76
New York	Thundershowers	▲ 76 ▼ 63
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲ 84 ▼ 73
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 66 ▼ 44
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲ 76 ▼ 64
Rome	Showers	▲ 76 ▼ 61
Salem	Sunny	▲ 89 ▼ 51
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 62 ▼ 53
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 74 ▼ 60
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 75
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	▲ 81 ▼ 61

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:06 AM	6:16 PM	Today	7:49 AM	7:48 PM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:16 PM	Wednesday	8:49 AM	8:39 PM
Thursday	6:06 AM	6:15 PM	Thursday	9:51 AM	9:34 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:14 PM	Friday	10:52 AM	10:31 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:13 PM	Saturday	11:53 AM	11:31 PM

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- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPT 11, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5062 2:40am 3:10am 1, 3, 5

SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5062 2:40am 3:15am 1, 3, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 4, 6, 7

UA5062 4:50am 5:40am 1, 3, 5

UA5068 8:40am 9:30am Daily

UA5074 11:30am 12:20pm 1, 4, 5, 7

UA5076 3:10pm 4:00pm Daily

UA5078 6:50pm 7:40pm Daily

UA5072 9:55pm 10:45pm Daily

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5062 3:45am 5:40am 1, 3, 5

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)

UA5062 3:40am 4:15am 1, 3, 5

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5062 2:40am 4:20am 1, 3, 5 via ROP

UA5069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 4, 6, 7

UA5071 7:10am 8:00am Daily

UA5073 10:05am 10:55am Daily

UA5075 1:45pm 2:35pm 1, 4, 5, 7

UA5077 5:25pm 6:15pm Daily

UA5079 8:35pm 9:25pm Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287 6:05am 8:45am Daily

DL285 6:30am 9:15am 1, 3, 5, 7

DL297 4:35pm 7:20pm Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily

DL286 7:40pm 12:15am+1 2, 4, 6, 7

DL288 8:15pm 12:50am+1 Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

0Z606 2:20am 6:00am 1

0Z606 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

0Z604 3:30pm 6:55pm Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

0Z603 8:50am 2:20pm Daily

0Z605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7

0Z605 8:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SAIPAN (SPN)-PUSAN (BUS)

UZ608 3:20am 6:35am 4, 7

PUSAN (BUS)-SAIPAN (SPN)

0Z607 9:25pm 2:20am+1 3, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

0Z606/701 2:2

Business

In a crummy economy, why are stocks soaring?

WASHINGTON (AP)—Economic growth is pitiful. Unemployment has topped 8 percent for an exhausting 43 months. The nation is careening toward a so-called fiscal cliff, and maybe a recession.

So why is the Dow Jones industrial average, that trusty gauge of corporate America's strength, just 4 percent shy of an all-time record? And why are the smaller public companies measured by the Russell 2000 index almost there already?

Start with two words: Ben Bernanke.

Bernanke, the Federal Reserve chairman, last week announced unprecedented measures aimed at lifting the

sagging economy—and boosting the prices of assets like stocks and houses. The market rallied all summer in anticipation of such a move.

The Fed made an open-ended promise to purchase \$40 billion a month in mortgage bonds and said it will keep interest rates low through 2015, even if the economy starts to improve.

The announcement set off a two-day rally that drove the Dow up 260 points, leaving it less than 600 points shy of its record high—14,164, reached on Oct. 9, 2007, two months before the Great Recession began.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index, a broader measure of the market's strength, would need

to gain less than 7 percent to surpass its own record, reached on the same day.

There's ample reason to think Bernanke's prescription will work, at least for stocks. The idea is to pump money into the economy to push interest rates even lower, which encourages spending, and drive up stocks, which makes people feel richer.

The hope is that also will drive people out of investments based on interest rates, such as CDs and bond mutual funds, and into stocks. If stock prices rise, investors will be richer and more likely to spend. It's called the "wealth effect."

The measures are the Fed's third round of so-called quan-

titative easing. It's the fourth round if you count a similar, ongoing plan known as Operation Twist under which the Fed drives down long-term interest rates.

The earlier actions were rocket boosters for stocks:

■ The first round was announced in its full \$1.2 trillion form in March 2009, at the depths of the recession. From there, the Dow gained 45 percent over the following year. The S&P 500 rose even more.

■ Bernanke hinted at a second round in August 2010. From then until it ended June 30, 2011, the Dow added 24 percent.

■ Between the launch of Operation Twist last September and Wednesday, the day before the Fed's announcement, all three indexes rose more than 20 percent.

The Fed's actions work in part because they help make U.S. stocks one of the least ugly investments out there. Big American companies are a stable bet compared with Europe and many emerging markets.

People might prefer the safety of Treasurys, but the Fed is shooing them away, pushing yields so low that, adjusting for inflation, investors end up paying the government to hold on to their money.

There's no denying the Fed measures draw investors into stocks, says Tyler Vernon, chief investment officer of Biltmore Capital, an investment adviser in Princeton, N.J.

But without some improvement in the economy itself, he says, the effects will be fleeting.

"We've had this recovery in the stock market but not really in the economy," Vernon says. Stocks will likely fall within months, he says, "when the same stories are coming out about the economy, when we start hearing the same old song of people dropping out of the workforce and unemployment staying high."

Europe at loggerheads over banking reform

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP)—Europe faces weeks of tough negotiations to agree on a new region-wide banking supervisor after divisions emerged over the new body's powers at a meeting of the region's finance ministers Saturday.

The design of the new supervisory framework is widely considered to be a key part of Europe's attempts to strengthen its financial system and help bring an end to the three-year debt crisis.

On the second day of meetings in the Cyprus capital, finance ministers from all 27 members of the European Union pored over proposals unveiled earlier this week by the European Commission, the EU's executive branch. The Commission wants the European Central Bank to be given the role of supervisor and be granted sweeping new powers—from the ability to grant and take away banking licenses to extensive authority to investigate and fine wayward banks.

Many Europe-watchers and politicians have called for a "banking union"—a unified playbook for all the region's banks—to help forge a tighter

EU and solve the debt crisis hitting the 17 countries that use the euro.

The creation of a single bank supervisor is an important part of this plan and has to be in place before other measures can be considered. These include a European-wide system of depositors' insurance; a single method for winding down bankrupt banks; and allowing the European bailout fund to directly help banks in trouble, instead of lending money only to governments.

All 27 EU countries have to agree on the new framework though it will only apply to the 17-nation eurozone at first. The remaining 10 countries in the EU can join if they wish, but they won't have voting rights at the ECB because they are not members of the euro.

Though Europe has agreed in principle to the need for a new supervisor, there have been disagreements over the detail, raising doubts over the Commission's aim to have the ECB ready to take up its new duties by the new year.

"It will not be possible," said Wolfgang Schaeuble, Germany's finance minister. Germany only wants the largest

banks to be under ECB control but the Commission proposals say all 6,000 banks in the eurozone should be monitored.

Michel Barnier, the European internal market commissioner and the man behind the proposals, conceded that the timetable was "tight and ambitious" but that it was "realistic" and "necessary." Cyprus finance minister Vassos Shiarly, who was chairing the discussions, said the Cypriot EU presidency's commitment to meet the end of year deadline remains "and we will adhere to it."

However, Swedish finance minister Anders Borg said he was concerned that the eurozone countries could overrule Sweden and other non-euro countries, such as Britain, on broader issues such as imposing new capital requirements on every bank in the EU.

"We can obviously not accept to have supervision in Europe be based on the ECB where we are not members and if we did become members we would not have voting rights," Borg said. "It is unacceptable to be under supervision from an organization where we don't have a voting right."



In this Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2012, file photo, gas station attendant Youssouf Soukouna, 42, pumps gas into a vehicle at a LukOil station where all levels of gas were priced at \$4.99, in Newark, N.J. AP

Report: US banks subject of money-laundering probe

NEW YORK (AP)—Regulators are investigating whether several major U.S. banks failed to monitor transactions properly, allowing criminals to launder money, according to a New York Times story. The newspaper cited officials who it said spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the federal agency that oversees the biggest banks, is leading the money-laundering investigation, according to the Times. The report said the OCC could soon take action against JPMorgan Chase & Co., and that it is also investigating Bank of America Corp. Money laundering allows people to make money—often obtained illegally—appear like it came from another source.

The OCC, JPMorgan and Bank of America declined to comment.

The financial industry is struggling to mend its public image. Four years after the financial crisis, banks are getting

closer scrutiny. And regulators are under pressure to show that they're not missing any questionable activity.

This summer, British bank Barclays PLC settled charges that it had manipulated a key global interest rate. Standard Chartered PLC, also based in the U.K., agreed to settle charges that it had improperly processed money for Iran, brought by the New York Department of Financial Services after the bank voluntarily informed regulators that it was reviewing relevant practices. In the spring, JPMorgan surprised shareholders with an unexpected trading loss.

If the OCC takes action, it could be similar to a cease-and-desist order that it filed against Citigroup in April. At the time, the OCC said that Citi had deficient internal controls and anti-money laundering procedures. In bank regulation, a cease-and-desist order doesn't mean that a bank has to shut down, but it is a serious sanction that requires a bank to change its practices. Citi

had already told the regulator that from 2006 to 2010, it had "failed to adequately monitor" some of its transactions connected to "foreign correspondent banking."

The order in April didn't make any new, specific accusations. But it did instruct Citigroup to tighten its rules so it could improve compliance with the Bank Secrecy Act and related regulations. The act requires financial institutions to report suspicious activity and to put rules in place to try to make money laundering impossible for customers.

Last year, JPMorgan paid \$88 million to settle charges from the Treasury that it had unlawfully processed money for Cuba, Iran, Sudan and Liberia.

At the time, JPMorgan said it had had no intent to violate regulations. It pointed out that it oversaw "hundreds of millions of transactions and customer records per day, and annual error rates are a tiny fraction of a percent."

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Sources: Obama launching China trade case

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama will launch a new trade enforcement case against China Monday, using the power of incumbency to counter Republican Mitt Romney's criticism that he is ceding American jobs to the Asian power. Senior administration officials said the president will announce the new case, targeting Chinese subsidies for exports of automobiles and automobile parts, Monday during a campaign trip to Ohio. The swing state has a large manufacturing base where many blame China for depressing its industry. Obama and Romney have both pushed China—and through it, the economy—to the forefront of the White House race as they seek to refocus after a week dominated by foreign policy and the tur-

bulent events at U.S. embassies throughout the Middle East.

UK police arrest journalist in bribery probe

LONDON (AP)—British police arrested a journalist Saturday on suspicion of bribery, acting on information supplied by Rupert Murdoch's News Corp. The 43-year-old man was arrested in London by officers from Operation Elveden, which is investigating inappropriate payments to police and public officials, police said. He was freed on bail several hours later. The corruption probe is running alongside investigations into phone hacking and computer hacking sparked by revelations that reporters at Murdoch's now-shuttered News of the World tabloid routinely intercepted voicemails of those in the public eye.

Nation

UN ambassador says Libya attack was spontaneous

WASHINGTON (AP)—A deadly assault on a U.S. consulate in Libya was a spontaneous reaction to an anti-Muslim video, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations said Sunday, even as Libya's president insisted the attackers spent months preparing and carefully choosing their date—the anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Unnerved by the rapidly escalating raid on Tuesday that claimed the life of the U.S. ambassador to Libya and three other Americans, the Obama administration last week launched an investigation into whether terrorist groups had exploited outrage over an anti-Muslim video to trigger an attack long in the works.

But Ambassador Susan Rice said evidence gathered so far shows no indication of a premeditated or coordinated strike. She said the attack in Benghazi, powered by mortars and rocket-propelled grenades, appeared to be a copycat of demonstrations that had erupted hours earlier outside the U.S. Embassy in Cairo, spurred by a YouTube film attributed to a California man mocking the Prophet Muhammad.

"It seems to have been hijacked, let us say, by some individual clusters of extremists who came with heavier weapons," Rice said, adding that such weaponry is easy to come by in post-revolutionary Libya.

Whether those extremists had ties to al-Qaida or other terrorist groups has yet to be determined, Rice said, noting that the FBI has yet to complete its investigation.

Rice's depiction of the chain of events contrasted with one offered by Libya's Interim President Mohammed el-Megarif, who said Sunday there was no doubt the

Mapping the protests

Protests against a video insulting the Prophet Muhammad have spread throughout the Islamic world to include the embassies of U.S. allies, along with American posts.



1 United Kingdom About 200 protesters gather outside U.S. Embassy in London, burn U.S. and Israeli flags

2 Belgium U.S. Embassy in Brussels evacuated

3 Morocco Activists gather outside U.S. consulate in Casablanca

4 Algeria Calls for protests on social media prompt U.S. Embassy to caution Americans there

5 Tunisia U.S. Embassy in Tunis breached

6 Nigeria Protest outside mosque in city of Jos

7 Libya Four arrested Thursday in connection with the attack on U.S. consulate, Benghazi

8 Sudan Attacks on German and British embassies in Khartoum

9 Egypt Leaders try to distance themselves from protesters, repair ties with Washington after their lukewarm response to Tuesday's attacks on U.S. Embassy in Cairo

10 Gaza, West Bank Thousands of Palestinians demonstrate, clash with Israeli security forces

Source: BBC, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Al Jazeera, The Guardian, CNN
Graphic: Pat Carr

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perpetrators had predetermined the date of the attack.

"It was planned, definitely. It was planned by foreigners, by people who entered the country a few months ago," el-Megarif said. "And they were planning this criminal act since their arrival."

Brushing aside el-Megarif's assessment, Rice said it wouldn't be the first time that Western works critical of Islam have triggered spontaneous unrest throughout the Middle East. She pointed to Salman Rushdie's novel "Satanic Verses" and cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad published by a Danish newspaper in 2006.

But Rep. Mike Rogers, the House Intelligence Committee chair, said it was premature to rule out a premeditated attack. A former FBI agent, Rogers, R-Mich., said there were too many coincidences to conclude the Benghazi attack hadn't been planned in advance.

"There's other information, classified information we have that just makes you stop for a minute and pause," Rogers said, without elaborating.

Added Arizona's Sen. John McCain, the top Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee: "Most people don't bring rocket-propelled grenades and heavy weapons to a demonstration."

What started with protesters scaling the embassy wall in Cairo on Tuesday over an amateurish video deriding Islam's holiest figure has mushroomed into a maelstrom of disquiet throughout the Muslim world. In Libya, U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans were killed when protesters stormed the con-

sulate in Benghazi. Anti-U.S. protests in 20 countries led the Pentagon to dispatch elite Marine anti-terrorism teams to Libya and Yemen and to position two Navy warships off Libya's coast.

Meanwhile, the State Department ordered all nonessential U.S. government workers and their families out of Sudan and Tunisia. In Lebanon, protesters torched an American fast-food restaurant. Even as tensions appeared to be easing Saturday, al-Qaida's most active Mideast branch was calling for further attacks on U.S. embassies.

"It's approximately a reaction to this video, and it's a hateful video that had nothing to do with the United States and which we find disgusting and reprehensible," Rice said.

Rice's comments appeared to mark a departure from an earlier State Department position.

Citing the ongoing FBI probe, State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said Friday that until the Justice Department was ready to talk, no details would be released. "Not who they were, not how they happened, not what happened to Ambassador Stevens—not any of it."

But the uncertainty of an anxious nation questioning what was gained by U.S. support for democratic, pro-Islamic uprisings in Muslim countries has created a sense of urgency that has been difficult for the Obama administration to ignore. The turbulence has also become a major issue in President Barack Obama's re-election campaign, with the Republican rival for the White House, Mitt Romney, laying blame on the president and accusing him of apologizing for the U.S.

ACROSS THE NATION

Weighing offer, Chicago teachers remain on strike

CHICAGO (AP)—Chicago teachers uncomfortable with a tentative contract offer decided Sunday to remain on strike, insisting they need more time before deciding whether to end an acrimonious standoff with Mayor Rahm Emanuel that will keep 350,000 students out of class for at least two more days. Emanuel fired back Sunday night by instructing city attorneys to seek a court order forcing Chicago Teachers Union members back into the classroom. "This was a strike of choice and is now a delay of choice that is wrong for our children," he said in a statement. Presented with a choice on whether to ask members to vote on a contract that union president Karen Lewis had at one point called "a fight for the very soul of public education," the union's 800-member House of Delegates told their leaders they needed more time to talk to the rank and file before ending the city's first teachers strike in 25 years.

Police: Fla. boy, 13, killed 2-year-old brother

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP)—A decade before he was charged with murder, a 2-year-old Cristian Fernandez was found naked and dirty, wandering a South Florida street. The grandmother taking care of him had holed up with cocaine in a messy motel room, while his 14-year-old mother was nowhere to be found. His life had been punctuated with violence since he was conceived, an act that resulted in a sexual assault conviction against his father. Fernandez' life got worse from there: He was sexually assaulted by a cousin and beaten by his stepfather, who committed suicide before police investigating the beating arrived. The boy learned to squelch his feelings, once telling a counselor: "You got to suck up feelings and get over it."

NASA postpones final ferry flight of Endeavour

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—The beginning of space shuttle Endeavour's final flight to California has been postponed because of weather along the flight route. NASA had planned for the 747 carrying the shuttle to take off from Kennedy Space Center on Monday. The flight is now scheduled to take off at sunrise Tuesday. Low flyovers are still planned along Cape Canaveral and at NASA facilities in Louisiana and Mississippi. A stop in Houston will be shortened to one day.

Furor fades a year after US military's gay ban was lifted

NEW YORK (AP)—They are images Americans had never seen before. Jubilant young men and women in military uniforms marching beneath a rainbow flag in a gay-pride parade. Soldiers and sailors returning from deployment and, in time-honored tradition, embracing their beloved—only this time with same-sex kisses.

It's been a year now since the policy known as "don't ask, don't tell" was repealed, enabling gay and lesbian members of the military to serve openly, no longer forced to lie and keep their personal lives under wraps.

The Pentagon says repeal has gone smoothly, with no adverse effect on morale, recruitment or readiness. President Barack Obama cites it as a signature achievement of his first term, and his Republican challenger, Mitt Romney, says he would not push to reverse the change if elected in place of Obama.

Some critics persist with complaints that repeal has infringed on service members whose religious faiths condemn homosexuality. Instances of anti-gay harassment have not ended. And activists are frustrated that gay and lesbian military families don't yet enjoy the benefits and services extended to other military families.

Yet the clear consensus is that repeal has produced far more joy and relief than dismay and indignation. There's vivid evidence in photographs that have rocketed across cyberspace, such as the military contingent marching in San Diego's gay pride parade and Marine Sgt. Brandon Morgan leaping into the arms of his boyfriend after returning from six months in Afghanistan.

Tens of thousands of people clicked the "like" button for the photo on Facebook, and Morgan acknowledged it was "a great moment in history."

"But when it comes down to

it, we didn't intend for this to go worldwide," he said. "We were just happy to be together."

There have been many such milestones since repeal took effect on Sept. 20, 2011:

In December, a lesbian sailor won the right to the coveted "first kiss" when the USS *Oak Hill* returned to port in Virginia after 80 days at sea. The crowd on hand to welcome the ship screamed in delight and waved flags as Petty Officer 2nd Class Marissa Gaeta shared a kiss with her partner, Citlalic Snell—a moment captured in a YouTube clip that drew 1.5 million viewers.

In June, Air Force Tech. Sgt. Erwynn Umali and his civilian partner were united in a civil union ceremony at the chapel at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in New Jersey, with a Navy chaplain presiding.

In August, longtime Army officer Tammy Smith became the military's first openly gay

general. Her wife, Tracey Hepner, did the honors of pinning on the general's star during the promotion ceremony.

Smith and Hepner were married in March in the District of Columbia, one of many same-sex couples inspired to wed when they no longer had to conceal relationships.

Among other newlyweds are Air Force Major Adrianna Vorderbruggen and her civilian wife, Heather Lamb, who married in June, and are raising a 17-month-old son near Washington.

Lamb said she'd attended a squadron family and spouse support event, and was recognized by the commander during Vorderbruggen's recent promotion ceremony.

"None of it could have happened before repeal," Lamb said.

Another couple, Alisdair Mackay and Stephen Peters, were married last December in New York shortly before Mac-

kay, a Marine Corps major, began a one-year deployment to Afghanistan. Peters, a former Marine discharged under "don't ask, don't tell" in 2007, said the post-repeal experience had been wonderful, by and large, for him and Mackay.

"The Marines he works with are completely supportive," Peters said. "He's able to be honest about me and our lives together."

The main downside, Peters said, is that the Pentagon doesn't officially recognize same-sex couples when allocating medical coverage, housing and travel allowances, and other benefits.

Peters is president of the American Military Partner Association, one of several advocacy groups which says the Obama administration could act on its own to extend these benefits, even without Congress repealing the 1996 law denying federal recognition to same-sex marriages.

Asia

Panetta: US-Japan agree on new defense system

TOKYO (AP)—U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said Monday that U.S. and Japanese officials have agreed to put a second defense system in Japan aimed at protecting the country from the threat of a missile attack from North Korea.

The exact location of the radar installation has not yet been determined. It will be in the south, officials said, but not in Okinawa.

Officials stressed that the system would be aimed at protecting the region against the threat from North Korea and is not directed at China.

The U.S. already has similar early warning radar systems on ships in the Asia-Pacific.

This second Japan-based system will allow the U.S. vessels to spread out and cover other parts of the Asia-Pacific region.

Panetta said the new instal-

lation would also be effective in protecting the U.S. homeland from a North Korea threat. He spoke during a press conference in Tokyo with the Japanese defense minister, Satoshi Morimoto.

While officials insisted the radar system would not be aimed at China, the decision was sure to raise the ire of Beijing.

The radar will "enhance our ability to defend Japan," Panetta said, adding that he would talk to Chinese leaders about the system to assure them that this about protecting the U.S. and the region from North Korea's missile threat.

"We have made these concerns clear to the Chinese," he said. "For that reason ... we believe it is very important to move ahead" with the radar system.

Japan has worked closely with the U.S. for several years on missile defense, and has both land-

and sea-based missile launchers.

North Korea's ballistic missiles are considered a threat to security in the Asia-Pacific region because of the risk of conflict erupting on the divided and heavily militarized Korean peninsula, and because of the secretive North's nuclear weapons program.

The long-range rockets it is developing have been test-fired over Japan and could potentially reach the U.S.

The North conducted its latest long-range rocket launch in April, defying a U.N. ban. Pyongyang said the launch was intended to send an observation satellite into space but it drew international condemnation as the rocket technology is similar to that used for ballistic missiles.

The launch was a failure and the rocket disintegrated shortly after takeoff.

World

Clashes over prophet film; Hezbollah urges demos

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP)—

Hundreds of Pakistanis protesting an anti-Islam film broke through a barricade near the U.S. Consulate in the southern city of Karachi on Sunday, sparking clashes with police in which one demonstrator was killed and more than a dozen injured.

In a move that could escalate tensions around the Arab world, the leader of the Hezbollah militant group called for protests against the movie, saying protesters should not only 'express our anger' at U.S. embassies but urge leaders to act.

The film, which denigrates Islam's Prophet Muhammad, has sparked violent protests in many Muslim countries in recent days, including one in Libya in which the U.S. ambassador was killed. The U.S. has responded by deploying additional military forces to increase

security in certain hotspots.

In a televised speech, Hezbollah leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah said the U.S. must be held accountable for the film, which was produced in the United States. The U.S. government has condemned the film.

"The ones who should be held accountable and boycotted are those who support and protect the producers, namely the U.S. administration," Nasrallah said. He called for protests on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

He urged protesters to call on their leaders to express their anger too.

"We should not only express our anger at an American embassy here or there. We should tell our rulers in the Arab and Muslim world that it is 'your responsibility in the first place' and since you officially represent the governments and

states of the Muslim world you should impose on the United States, Europe and the whole world that our prophet, our Quran and our holy places and honor of our Prophet be respected," he told his followers in a televised speech.

Nasrallah said he waited to speak out about the film until Sunday, when Pope Benedict XVI ended his three-day trip to Lebanon.

In Pakistan, police fired tear gas and water cannons at the protesters in Karachi after they broke through the barricade and reached the outer wall of the U.S. Consulate, police officer Mohammad Ranjha said. The protesters threw stones and bricks, prompting the police to beat back the crowd with their batons. The police and private security guards outside the consulate also fired in the air to disperse the crowd.

Pakistan journalists' choice: Face death, or jail

QUETTA, Pakistan (AP)—The telephone call to local journalists generally comes in the late evening. The voice on the other end is harsh. He has a statement he wants printed, and he prefacing it with a terse order: "Report our messages without making any changes or we will kill you."

The messages they deliver warn of upcoming violence or assassinations, sometimes naming an intended victim, or claim responsibility for atrocities already committed. The calls come from Sunni militants notorious for violence against minority Shiites or members of secessionist groups that routinely blow up police stations

and attack government facilities in the southwestern Pakistani province of Baluchistan.

But the late-night calls put the journalists in a bind. If they don't print the messages, they could be killed. If they do print them, they could face three years in prison under Pakistan's anti-terrorism laws. It's no surprise which risk they'd rather run. At least 20 journalists have been killed in Baluchistan the past six years, their bullet-ridden bodies sometimes found stuffed into sacks.

"If you are a journalist here in Baluchistan you have a choice: Either a bullet in the head or a jail sentence," said Ashiq Butt, a stocky bureau

chief with the News Network International (NNI), a Pakistani news agency that feeds its reports to newspapers.

But authorities are putting pressure from their side as well, trying to stem spiraling violence in the province.

Last month, the Baluchistan provincial government for the first time charged 21 news organizations, their owners and several journalists under the anti-terrorist law, which provides for three years in jail if convicted of carrying messages, reports or information supplied by outlawed militant groups. The charge sheet filed by the government accused the news organizations of "spreading panic."



A Pakistani protester holds stone as others hang a flag at the entry of the gate of the U.S. consulate during a demonstration in Karachi, Pakistan, Sunday, Sept. 16, 2012. AP

ASIAN BRIEFS

China reins in rowdy anti-Japan demonstrations

BEIJING (AP)—China is trying to tamp rising anti-Japan sentiment after a weekend of sometimes violent demonstrations by threatening to arrest lawbreakers and scrubbing websites of protest-related images and posts. At the Japanese Embassy in Beijing on Monday, around 60 people protested Tokyo's claim to a string of uninhabited islands in the East China Sea that Beijing also claims. The protesters were far outnumbered by around 1,000 security personnel. Protests flared in cities across China over the weekend, with some violence and looting of factories and shops. They were the largest anti-Japanese demonstrations since 2005. More demonstrations were expected Tuesday on the anniversary of the Mukden Incident, a bombing of a railway that Japan used as a pretext to invade northern China in 1931.

Manila urged to deport ailing Taiwanese detainees

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Taiwan is urging the Philippines to immediately deport nearly 300 Taiwanese arrested in an alleged online fraud after one died and others began falling ill in crowded makeshift detention facilities, officials said Sunday. Philippine authorities arrested 380 suspected members of a fraud syndicate, including 291 Taiwanese, 86 Chinese and a New Zealander, in raids

Aug. 23 on 20 houses in metropolitan Manila and nearby Rizal province. It was the largest number of single-day arrests in a Philippine anti-crime operation in years. Due to the large number, the suspects, including nearly 100 women, were detained in a gymnasium in a police training camp where one Taiwanese later died due to a stomach ailment after showing signs of dengue fever. More than 100 other detainees have fallen ill, mostly with coughs and fevers, with some afflicted with diarrhea and dengue partly because the gym was not designed for prolonged detentions, according to a Philippine police report.

After drenching Japan, typhoon heads to S. Korea

TOKYO (AP)—A strong typhoon that left tens of thousands of homes in southwestern Japan without power is moving over South Korea. Typhoon Sanba crossed over the Okinawan islands on Sunday and dumped heavy rains that flooded some areas. Weather officials say gusts reached 200 kph (124 mph). Some 67,000 households in Okinawa and Kagoshima were without power Monday. The coast guard says a man drowned Sunday while swimming in high waves off the southern Japanese island of Ishigaki. The storm reached the southern coast of South Korea by midday Monday. It has weakened but the Korean Meteorological Administration says it still has winds of 155 kph (96 mph).

WORLD BRIEFS

US, Russian space trio lands in Kazakhstan

ALMATY, Kazakhstan (AP)—An international three-man crew onboard a Russian-made Soyuz capsule touched down successfully on the cloudless central Kazakhstan steppe Monday morning after 123 days at the International Space Station. A fleet of Russian Mi-8 helicopters deployed from towns near the landing site ahead of the capsule's arrival early Monday morning to ensure swift interception. NASA's Joe Acaba and Russian colleagues Gennady Padalka and Sergei Revin undocked from the orbiting laboratory somewhere over Nairobi, Kenya, some 3 1/2 hours before touchdown. The Soyuz craft remains the only means for international astronauts to reach the space station since the decommissioning of the U.S. Shuttle fleet in 2011.

SA miners threaten to march despite clamp down

MARIKANA, South Africa (AP)—Striking miners hungry after five weeks of no pay and enraged by police firing rubber bullets and tear gas are threatening to march despite a government-ordered clampdown to halt il-

legal protests and strikes damaging South Africa's critical mining sector. Armed soldiers and police in armored cars stood at the ready Monday at Lonmin PLC's platinum mine. The presence of 1,000 soldiers trucked into the "platinum belt" 100 kilometers (60 miles) northwest of Johannesburg has escalated tensions over union rivalries and higher pay demands that have stopped work at one gold and six platinum mines.

17 mutilated bodies found in central Mexico

JALISCO, Mexico (AP)—The dismembered bodies of 17 men were found Sunday on a farm in a part of central Mexico disputed by violent drug cartels, officials said. The bodies were dumped near a highway in the town of Tizapan el Alto by the border between Jalisco and Michoacan, said Jalisco state prosecutor Tomas Coronado Olmos. The bodies were discovered as Mexicans celebrated their independence. Coronado Olmos didn't reveal the identities of the slain men but said the bodies were naked, mutilated and stacked with chains around their necks. They had been killed elsewhere and dumped on the property.

Overdrive

Tesla's new sedan will make or break the company

DETROIT (AP)—It's a make or break moment for electric car maker Tesla Motors.

Tesla has lost nearly \$1 billion selling high-end electric sports cars to the likes of George Clooney. Now it's going to attempt to sell them to the rest of us—and try to make money doing so.

The company's first mass-market, five-seat sedan will be delivered Friday. The car, called the Model S, will either propel the company to profitability or leave it sputtering on the fumes of a \$465 million government loan.

"The Model S is the going to be the first true mass market product experiment for Tesla, one they cannot afford to fail," says Jesse Toprak, vice president of market intelligence at car buying site TrueCar.com.

Tesla, the brainchild of PayPal billionaire and SpaceX founder Elon Musk, has always been a moon shot. Analysts and auto industry insiders scoffed at the idea that a new car company could be created from scratch and built in a high-cost state like California. Boardroom turmoil and a string of technical problems repeatedly delayed the launch of the company's only car, the \$109,000 two-seat Tesla Roadster.

Tesla survived by creating something so unique that the price tag was almost irrelevant: A beautiful car that could tear up a race track without burning a single drop of gasoline. Celebrities flocked to it, giving Tesla a cache that an established brand like Cadillac could only dream of.

Now Tesla must do something much more difficult. It has to convince more traditional car customers to buy an expensive vehicle with limited range from a small, untested company.

The Model S carries a starting price of \$49,900 after a federal tax credit—about the same as a Lexus RX hybrid



In this Oct. 27, 2010, file photo, the new Tesla Model S electric sedan is shown during the unveiling of the new Tesla factory in Fremont, Calif.

AP

crossover. Models top out at \$101,550, or about the same as a hybrid Fisker Karma sports car.

A car that's half the price of the Roadster lets Tesla break into a bigger market, but those customers will take a hard look at the value they are getting. This isn't a trophy car to park on Rodeo Drive. It's a sedan for hauling kids and groceries.

The high price will limit sales, says Rebecca Lindland, an analyst with IHS Automotive. She doubts Tesla will reach its goal of selling 20,000 Model S sedans in 2013. Nissan has sold just under 30,000 all-electric Nissan Leaf sedans since they went on sale at the

end of 2010. But the Leaf is little more than half the price of a Model S.

Still, the Model S already has broader appeal than the Roadster. Tesla says more than 10,000 people have put down a refundable deposit for the sedan, and it expects to sell 5,000 this year. The Roadster has sold just 2,150 since 2008.

The first sedans will be delivered to customers Friday at Tesla's factory in Fremont, Calif., a plant the company bought for \$42 million in 2010 from its former operators, General Motors Co. and Toyota Motor Corp. Tesla will host 12 test drives around the country this summer for reservation holders.

Tesla didn't make executives available

for interviews ahead of Friday's event. But at the company's annual meeting this month, Musk said he's "highly confident" that Tesla will meet its goals. That includes making a profit in 2013.

Even if buyers take a chance on Tesla, the risks don't end there. A charging network doesn't exist in the U.S., and electric-car owners can run out of power between stops. There's no gasoline engine that kicks in as a backup, as there is in the electric Chevrolet Volt.

Tesla is trying to ease worries about range by throwing in a charger with three kinds of adapters that can be used at home or at public charging stations. It's also planning a network of fast

chargers at highway exits. Buyers can upgrade to a battery with an industry-best 300 miles of range. The base model can go for 160 miles on one charge.

The company's retail strategy is also untested. Its 14 U.S. stores have a tiny presence compared with Lexus' 230. When Roadsters need repairs, Tesla deploys technicians to the owners' house. It will be far more expensive to do that if Tesla sells as many Model S sedans as it hopes. The company's plans for servicing the cars are hazy. Musk said recently that Tesla simply wants to make cars that don't need servicing.

"We want every aspect of that car to be as perfect as possible," he said.

For investors, the Model S will test whether the company is built for endurance or a quick test drive. So far, the company's glamorous founder and its sculpture-like cars have generated enough buzz to keep the stock hot. Its price has nearly doubled from its initial public offering level of \$17 a share two years ago.

Tesla's current stock price of \$32 assumes achievements the company has yet to accomplish, says Carter Driscoll, who researches clean energy companies for Capstone Investments. The company has lost \$759 million since it was founded in 2003 and has never made a profit. It survives, in part, on its loan from the U.S. Department of Energy. It also sells electric drive systems to Toyota and Daimler AG.

"It's sexy," says Driscoll. "People want to believe in it. But there are so many what ifs, ands or buts."

But if you're a believer, all you have to do is point out Musk's latest accomplishment: Last month, his SpaceX venture became the first private company to send a cargo rocket to the International Space station.

Moon shots can work.

MILWAUKEE—Russ Darrow started in the car business with a single Chrysler dealership 47 years ago.

Since then, his business has grown to 13 dealerships in southern Wisconsin from metro Milwaukee to Madison to Appleton. Darrow dealerships offer Honda, Toyota, Nissan, Jeep, Dodge, Kia, Mitsubishi and Mazda brands.

The business has more than 600 employees and is listed at No. 82 on the Ward's Automotive list of 100 mega-dealers in the U.S. with \$333.1 million in total revenue. Darrow recently discussed the American automobile industry with the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel via email.

QUESTION: You've been in the auto business for 47 years. What has been the biggest change in the business that has occurred during that time?

ANSWER: I really don't know where to begin. I've been lucky enough to make one gutsy start 47 years ago, and grow it year-after-year to where we are today. Obviously, there have been so many huge changes ranging from the quality and styling of vehicles, to the unbelievable technological advance-

A dealer's view of 47 years in the auto industry

By JOE TASCHLER
MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

ments, to the safety of vehicles along with airbags, sensors, satellite entertainment centers, up to right now where some of the higher-line models actually have night vision infrared, forward-facing cameras to detect persons or animals in the way of your oncoming car, and the automatic braking that occurs when objects are in front of a car.

Q: Do you remember the year and model of the first car that you ever sold?

A: The first person I ever sold was in 1960 from Heiser Ford on Prospect Avenue and North Avenue in Milwaukee. I clearly remember, and still know the families of two of the first four or five vehicles I sold. One was a Ford Fairlane 500, and the other was a Ford station wagon—I believe it was called a Country Squire.

Q: How has the Internet changed the automotive sales business?

A: It's changed everything; consum-

er education and ability to get whatever they want about anything having to do with automobiles, trucks—anything. And to get it instantly, including the prices and including both new vehicles, pre-owned vehicles of their choice and also many, many pictures of every single vehicle. It's unbelievable.

Prospective customers can design and build their own cars from home, and then when they come into a car dealership, most prospects know what they want. The car salesperson duties have also changed a lot, primarily because the showroom prospect is armed with so much information, and today, time is more important than money to so many people. People want to be treated quickly, intelligently and with very professional courtesy. Anything else is not OK.

Q: When the economy tumbled in 2008, the auto business was hit fairly hard. GM and Chrysler went

into bankruptcy. Thousands of dealerships closed. What was it like to weather that storm? What did you learn from that experience?

A: In 2008, we, like so many other dealers in the U.S., were really thrown for a loop by both the speed, and the severity of the recession. Speed was a direct result of an almost immediate cutoff of retail financing and retail leasing by finance institutions, coupled with severe restrictions and changes in the world of lending by all banks and captive finance companies to the franchisee auto dealers....

But we got through that, through extreme expense reduction processes, great response by dedicated employees within our company, by maintaining ongoing serious communications with our employees about our ability to succeed through the problems—with their help and participation, etc. And thank goodness that the auto

industry has now recovered, and the banks are again anxious to finance retail purchase contracts, along with leasing cars and trucks to individuals and small businesses.

Q: What does the future hold for the car business? What sorts of changes do you expect in coming years?

A: I believe the future of the car business is excellent. Once again, people of all kinds across America have a love affair with the auto industry. The key to the continued growth of our industry is the availability of money and enthusiastic lending practices on the part of banks, other financing sources and captive finance companies of the manufacturers or factories.

Many other countries and societies in our world have a totally different view than we do, because we are spoiled. In this country, mass transit has a very useful purpose—primarily in metro cities as it relates to buses and subways. But, everywhere else in the country, people want their own transportation and they want to travel on their time schedule, with whom they want, when they want, and if they want. That's pretty special.

Life & Style

Palace to file criminal complaint over Kate pics

LONDON (AP)—Lawyers for Britain's royal family will make a criminal complaint against the photographer who took pictures of Prince William's wife Kate sunbathing topless in the south of France, William's office said Sunday.

The palace has already launched a civil lawsuit against France's *Closer* magazine, which published the paparazzi snaps of Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, relaxing during a holiday at a private villa in Provence.

The couple is hitting back hard against publication of the pictures, which the palace called a "grotesque" abuse of the young royals' privacy.

A spokeswoman for William's St. James's Palace office said the couple's lawyers would file a complaint with French prosecutors on Monday against the unidentified photographer or photographers involved.

"The complaint concerns the taking of photographs of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge whilst on holiday and the publication of those photographs in breach of their privacy," she said on condition of anonymity in keeping with palace policy.

The palace said it would be up to French prosecutors to decide whether to investigate and pursue a criminal case for breach of privacy or trespassing.

The couple's lawyers are already due in a Paris court Monday seeking an injunction against *Closer*'s publisher, the Italian me-



Britain's Prince William, left, and his wife Kate prepare to sit for a meal at Government House in Honiara, Solomon Islands, Sunday, Sept. 16, 2012. AP

dia group Mondadori. It also publishes Italy's *Chi* gossip magazine, which says it will publish 26 pages of the images on Monday.

The palace will seek damages from the publisher, which is owned by former Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi.

The palace said it was considering "all proportionate responses" against *Chi*, though no decision has been made on legal action against it or the Irish Daily Star which reproduced the *Closer* photos on Saturday.

No British publication has run the pictures, and Britain's

tabloids have lined up to denounce them as an invasion of the duchess' privacy.

The strong response stands in contrast to the reception of naked photos of Prince Harry partying in Las Vegas, which appeared online last month and were later published in Britain's Sun tabloid. The palace shrugged off the photos, snapped during a game of strip billiards, and took no action against those who published them.

Some see British papers' reluctance to run the Kate photos as a sign that the country's

once-rambunctious tabloids have been cowed by a scandal over phone hacking and other wrongdoing, which brought public opprobrium and an ongoing media-ethics inquiry.

The incident also has evoked memories of the paparazzi hounding of William's late mother, Princess Diana. A coroner's inquest found that pursuing photographers were partly responsible for her death in a Paris car crash in August 1997.

In bad news for the Irish Daily Star, both its owners criticized it for publishing the Kate photos.

'The Master' smashes box-office records

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Paul Thomas Anderson's cult drama "The Master" commanded a huge following in its opening weekend, smashing records on just a handful of screens.

The Weinstein Co. release made \$729,745 in five theaters in New York and Los Angeles for a record-setting per-screen average of \$145,949, according to Sunday studio estimates. The hugely anticipated film, which just won several of the top awards at the Venice Film Festival and will open in more cities in upcoming weeks, stars Philip Seymour Hoffman as a charismatic cult leader and Joaquin Phoenix as his wayward protege.

The No. 1 film at the box office was "Resident Evil: Retribution," which took in an estimated \$21.1 million in its debut. This is the fifth film in the Sony Screen Gems action franchise, starring Milla Jovovich.

That topped the 3-D re-release of the Disney Pixar animated favorite "Finding Nemo," which opened in second place with \$17.5 million.

The 3-D "Resident Evil: Retribution" was directed by Jovovich's husband, Paul W.S.



Milla Jovovich, left, and Paul W.S. Anderson attend the US premiere of "Resident Evil: Retribution" at Regal Cinemas L.A. Live on Wednesday, Sept. 12, 2012 in Los Angeles. AP

Anderson, who has made three of the five films. It features the actress once again as the warrior Alice, the last hope for the human race as an evil corporation unleashes a deadly virus that creates more flesh-eating undead on a worldwide scale. And fittingly, the film performed even better internationally, where it made a healthy \$50 million.

"You have to give so much credit for that to Milla," said Rory Bruer, Sony's head of distribution. "She's such an incredible

star and absolutely just works so hard in every country. Whether it's Russia or Japan, everywhere she's gone, she's worked so hard in regards to making the franchise a success."

The re-do of "Finding Nemo" follows in a recent tradition of Disney converting its classic animated movies into 3-D for a whole new audience. The 2003 underwater comedy about a tiny, lost fish named Nemo, featuring the voices of Albert Brooks, Ellen DeGeneres and Willem Da-

foe, won the Academy Award for best animated feature.

Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com, said the No. 1-opening for the latest "Resident Evil" movie came as a bit of a surprise. He figured "Finding Nemo" would come out on top, given the track record of the Pixar brand and the strong opening a year ago of Disney's "The Lion King" in 3-D, which debuted at No. 1 with \$30.1 million.

"The Screen Gems label, they know how to create a profit-making franchise," Dergarabedian said. "It's become so important if you have a star who resonates in the international marketplace—you can have a real winner worldwide."

Last week's No. 1 movie, the Lionsgate exorcism thriller "The Possession," fell to third place with an estimated \$5.8 million. It's now made about \$41.2 million over the past three weeks.

Among the other new movies this weekend, "Arbitrage" opened in 12th place in limited release with nearly \$2.1 million. Richard Gere stars as a hedge-fund billionaire juggling scandals that could destroy him personally and professionally.

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Resident Evil: Retribution 3D		
Friday	7:30	10:00
Saturday	1:30	7:30
Sunday	1:30	7:30
Monday thru Tuesday	7:30	
Cast:	Milla Jovovich, Michelle Rodriguez	
Action • Rated R		

Finding Nemo 3D		
Friday	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:00	7:00
Sunday	1:00	7:00
Monday thru Tuesday	7:00	
Cast:	Albert Brooks, Ellen DeGeneres, Willem Dafoe	
Children's/family • Rated G		

Resident Evil: Retribution 2D		
Friday	4:30	
Saturday	4:30	
Sunday	4:30	
Monday thru Tuesday	4:30	
Cast:	Milla Jovovich, Michelle Rodriguez	
Action • Rated R		

Finding Nemo 2D		
Friday	4:00	
Saturday	4:00	
Sunday	4:00	
Monday thru Tuesday	4:00	
Cast:	Albert Brooks, Ellen DeGeneres, Willem Dafoe	
Children's/family • Rated G		

The Possession		
Friday	4:25	7:25
Saturday	1:25	4:25
Sunday	1:25	4:25
Monday thru Tuesday	4:25	7:25
Cast:	Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Kyra Sedgwick	
Thriller, Horror • Rated PG13		

The Odd Life of Timothy Green		
Friday	4:20	7:20
Saturday	1:20	4:20
Sunday	1:20	4:20
Monday thru Tuesday	4:20	7:20
Cast:	Jennifer Garner, Joel Edgerton	
Comedy, Drama, Fantasy • Rated PG		

The Expendables 2		
Friday	4:40	7:10
Saturday	1:10	4:40
Sunday	1:10	4:40
Monday thru Tuesday	4:40	7:10
Cast:	Sylvester Stallone, Jason Statham, Jet Li	
Action • Rated R		

Paranorman		
Friday	4:15	7:15
Saturday	1:15	4:15
Sunday	1:15	4:15
Monday thru Tuesday	4:15	7:15
Cast:	Susan Duke, Donna Lynn Leavy	
Children's/family • Rated PG		

Bourne Legacy		
Friday	4:05	7:05
Saturday	1:05	4:05
Sunday	1:05	4:05
Monday thru Tuesday	4:05	7:05
Cast:	Jeremy Renner, Rachel Weisz	
Spy film, Action • Rated PG13		

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Woman's golfing companion has knocked her into the rough

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I thought "Arlene" was a close friend until I heard that she and another "friend" had arranged a trip to the theater. Several other women were also invited, but I wasn't. I should point out that when Arlene and I attended shows in the past, I was always the one buying the tickets.

I paid for her golf dues last October because she was a little short, and she still owes me about \$1,000. I provided her transportation to the golf club for the last four years because she doesn't have a car. Arlene and I have shared many shopping trips together, and I have always picked up the tab for lunch.

What's your take on this? I'm crushed!

LEFT OUT

DEAR LEFT OUT: If this was a one-time event, then it's time to straighten up and "uncrush" yourself because, regardless of how much money you have invested in your relationship with Arlene, you don't "own" her. My take on this is that in your zeal to be a good friend you have gone overboard.

If being excluded is an ongoing problem, then you and this woman are not as close as you assumed, or she has decided to take a breather. In that case, my advice is to work out a payment plan for the golf dues you are owed and widen your circle of friends.

DEAR ABBY: We have a large condo in Florida and are thrilled to have family and friends visit. I keep a small calendar of our appointments, events, etc. in the corner of my kitchen. A few of our visitors have made it their business to read the calendar and ask me who and what these events are all about.

My husband and I have been having some marriage problems and are seeing a therapist. One relative noticed these appointments and wanted to know "what that was all about"? Abby, isn't it rude to read someone's personal calendar and ask these kinds of questions? I must leave the calendar where it can be seen or my husband doesn't remember medical appointments, etc.

CALENDAR GIRL

DEAR CALENDAR GIRL: Of course it's rude to read someone's personal calendar. (It's called snooping.) Before the next houseguests come to visit, relocate the calendar to a private area. Then remind your husband about his appointments. That way he will know the schedule, and there will be nothing to arouse anyone's curiosity.

DEAR ABBY: Why can't bakeries slice English muffins and bagels completely through? Nobody eats either one without toasting them and slicing them first.

Along the same line: Why do loaves of bread have "ends"? Everybody throws them away and they are wasted.

MINA IN KELSO, WASH.

DEAR MINA: English muffins aren't meant to be sliced. To prepare them at their best, they should be purchased whole and the perimeter perforated using a fork so the muffin can then be torn apart before toasting. This leaves lots of irregular nooks and crannies so when they are buttered, they are even more succulent.

As to the ends of bread loaves (called "heels"), not everyone throws them away, just as not everyone cuts the crusts off. Some people enjoy the heels because they make for a chewier sandwich.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



Dear Abby

Nicki Minaj, Keith Urban named new 'Idol' judges

NEW YORK (AP)—The "American Idol" judges' panel is now complete with the naming of singer-rapper Nicki Minaj and country crooner Keith Urban.

The Fox network officially tapped the pair with an announcement Sunday, confirming rumors surrounding them both just hours before the first round of auditions for next season was due to begin in New York.

Minaj is getting \$12 million for a one-year deal on the hit Fox singing series, a person in the music industry with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press on Sunday. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss the deal.

A representative for Urban wouldn't disclose the singer's compensation for "Idol."

The announcement also settled the status of Randy Jackson. He will stay put as the sole remaining original "Idol" judge, scotching rumors he might assume a different role on the popular talent competition.

This trio will join pop star Mariah Carey at a judges' panel now expanded to four members from its previous three. The AP reported in July that Carey is receiving just shy of \$18 million for a one-year contract with a renewal option.

Arriving at Jazz at Lincoln Center, where the auditions would take place, Urban hailed "Idol" for its "great history of producing real stars."

As an "Idol" judge, he said he plans to be "authentic" but not cruel.

"I did similar shows when I was very young in Australia," he recalled, "and I was sort of crucified by one judge. So I don't know



This photo provided by Fox, American Idol host Ryan Seacrest, center, poses with judges, from left, Mariah Carey, Keith Urban, Nicki Minaj and Randy Jackson, Sunday, Sept. 16, 2012 in New York.

that I'll ever be THAT guy."

Minaj said during the auditions she'll be looking for "a superstar," which, she explained, is "something that can't be defined in words."

Jackson called this pair of hires a "fresh, fresh, fresh 'Idol' one-two!"

Minaj, he said, "brings a whole other cool vibe we've never had on the show, and Keith Urban? My God, he's unbelievably talented!"

When Carey was asked whether she had eagerly awaited news of who would join her as judges, she cracked that, no, she hadn't, "because all I really care about is me," but quickly added, "Only kidding."

Turning serious, she said she didn't know what kind of judge she would be.

"Am I the mean one? Am I the nice one? ... It's not about me, me, me, it's about them (the contestants) and what I can bring to them to help guide them in the right direction," said Carey.

Ryan Seacrest will remain as host when the show returns for its 12th season in January.

"Last night," he said, "we had a chance to really get together for the first time as a group. Everybody made a toast and talked about how special it was that they were here, and why they were here. So we're off to a good start."

Seacrest took note of "the serious and obvious diversity on this panel," adding, "You can see just by the panel the kind of power the show has."

The makeup of the panel has been in flux since Steven Tyler and Jennifer Lopez announced

their exits in July. Carey signed on later that month.

"I am thrilled about this year's judges panel," said Mike Darnell, Fox president of Alternative Entertainment. "With an unparalleled star like Mariah, fan-favorite Randy, chart-toppers like Nicki and Keith and our incomparable host Ryan, we've put together one of the most exciting judging panels around."

"Idol" is looking for its famous new faces to supercharge a show that remains a ratings leader but has seen its viewership and pop-culture clout erode in recent seasons in an increasingly crowded talent show field. Besides Fox sibling "The X Factor," which recently added Britney Spears and Demi Lovato as judges, there's NBC's "The Voice," which boasts Christina Aguilera among its big names.

Squabble highlights Sunday news shows competition

NEW YORK (AP)—CBS' Sunday morning public affairs television show "Face the Nation" has clearly gotten under the skin of its rivals at NBC's "Meet the Press."

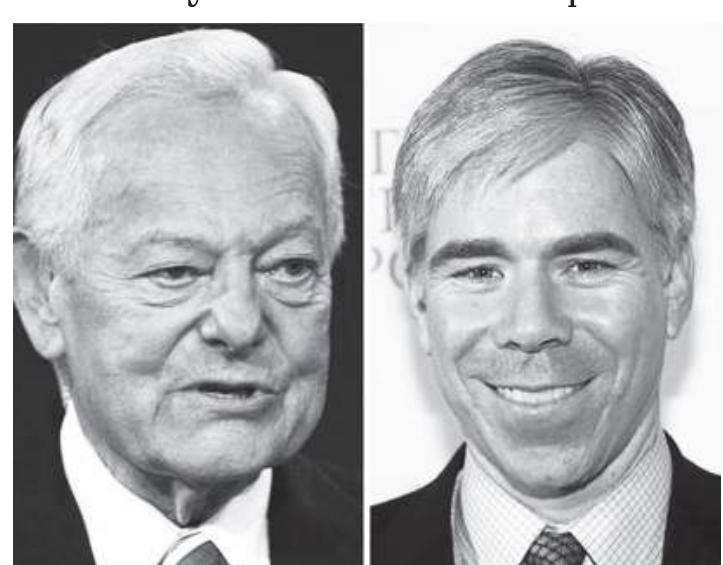
NBC accuses CBS of some trickery in the Nielsen ratings and in scheduling designed to make its show seem more popular than it actually is. CBS detects the aroma of sour grapes. The incident is a vivid illustration of a newly competitive era on Sundays.

As recently as last year, David Gregory's "Meet the Press" was the clear leader among these programs, averaging 3.21 million viewers per week, according to Nielsen, a company that measures media consumption. "Face the Nation" had 2.68 million viewers and ABC's "This Week" was at 2.32 million, with "Fox News Sunday" in fourth.

Things are much tighter so far this year. "Meet the Press" has dropped to an average of 2.91 million, CBS has climbed to 2.82 million and "This Week" has 2.39 million, Nielsen said.

To NBC, those numbers present an incomplete picture.

Until April, "Face the Nation" broadcast for a half hour each week. ("Meet the Press" and "This



This photo combo shows CBS' "Face the Nation" host Bob Schieffer, left, and NBC's "Meet the Press" host David Gregory.

Week" are hour-long shows.)

With its fortunes improving, Bob Schieffer's CBS show expanded to an hour this spring. Yet at CBS' request, Nielsen still reports ratings for the first half hour to advertisers and the media.

Reporting on the full hour would depress the numbers for "Face the Nation." On Sept. 9, for example, the CBS show had 2.49 million viewers in its first half hour, and 1.12 million in its

second half hour, Nielsen said.

If "Meet the Press" is judged on a full hour's worth of ratings, so should "Face the Nation," said Erika Masonhall, NBC News spokeswoman.

"We are constantly now forced to fight back against a false narrative about the state of the Sunday morning public affairs programs," she said. That narrative: NBC is struggling on Sunday compared with surging CBS.

Keira Knightley: 'I had no life besides acting'

NEW YORK (AP)—Actress Keira Knightley seems to be in a good place personally and professionally. She's engaged to marry musician James Righton and stars in the film adaptation of "Anna Karenina" alongside Jude Law.

The 27-year-old tells Vogue magazine's October issue, there was a time when she wasn't in such a good place.

She recalls a time when the fame from such roles as "Bend it like Beckham" and the "Pirates of the Caribbean" franchise was too intense. She says she "literally had no life outside of acting" and desired to "not be 'on' all the time."

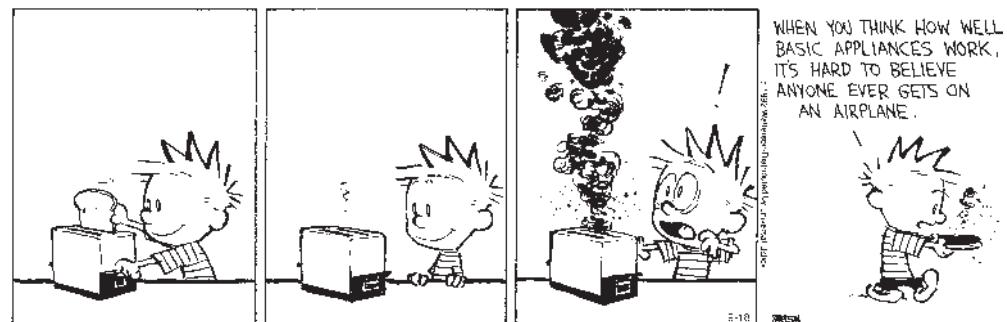
Instead of working, Knightley read books, cooked and lived in France.

The October issue of Vogue goes on sale nationwide Sept. 25.

"Anna Karenina" opens in limited release on Nov. 16.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

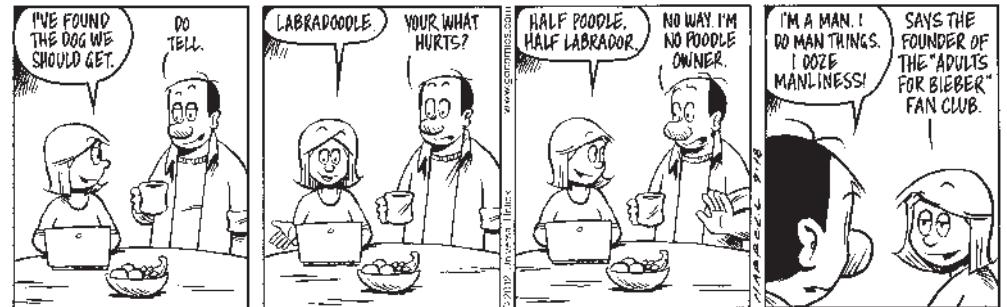


By Jim Davis



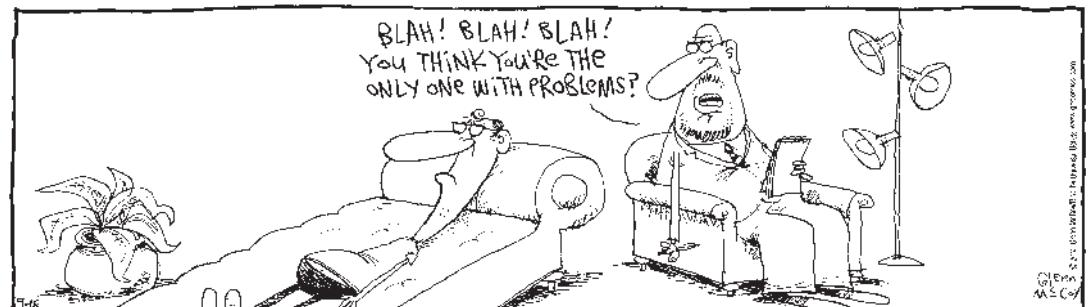
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CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

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■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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Application forms can be picked up at the Human Resources of Century Tours located at the Kanoa Resort in Beach Road, Susupe. Deadline for submission is Tuesday, September 25th, 2012.



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Qualifications: Must have minimum of 2 years work experience. High School diploma or GED certificate or any combination of education, training and experience which demonstrates ability to perform the job. Knowledge in the use of hand and paint sprayers. Is able to mix and match colors of paint, stain, or varnish with oil or thinning and drying additives to obtain desired color and consistencies. Job requires attention to detail and thorough in completing work tasks.

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Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent with minimum 2 years work experience in the preparation of mixed cocktails. Strong communication and interpersonal skills are required. Must be people oriented and have good customer service skills.

(2) A/C Refrigeration Mechanic

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(5) Guest Relations Agent -

Qualifications: Must have minimum of 3 years work experience as Guest Relations Agent, preferably in a hotel. Excellent customer service and interpersonal skills are essential. The ability to speak and write in a foreign language (Korean, Japanese, Chinese or Russian) will be a plus. Must be able to work a variable schedule including nights, weekends and holidays. Requires frequent walking and lifting.

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A pre-employment drug testing will be required. Salaries will commensurate with qualification and experience. For applications to be considered, they should be submitted to HR office no later than September 21, 2012. Application forms may be picked up from Fiesta Resort's security office on the South Wing.

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Drop off resume to Manila de Salon, located in Garapan besides Cool Carwash or call 233-2652 and look for Cerelina (Shiela) P. Bulawan.

Vick rallies Eagles for late win over Ravens



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—With the game on the line, Michael Vick made all the right decisions—again.

Vick scored on a 1-yard TD run with 1:55 left, helping the Philadelphia Eagles overcome a slew of turnovers to beat the Baltimore Ravens 24-23 on Sunday for their second straight comeback win.

The Eagles are 2-0 for the first time since Donovan McNabb and Terrell Owens led them to the Super Bowl in 2004.

"In the moment, you have to be at your best," Vick said. "It's got to be an any-means-necessary mentality."

Rookie kicker Justin Tucker made field goals of 56, 51 and 48 yards for the Ravens, but Joe Flacco couldn't get Baltimore (1-1) in his range in the final minute.

Flacco overthrew Ray Rice on fourth-and-1 from the Ravens 46, and the Eagles ran out the clock.

Vick threw four interceptions at Cleveland last week, but rallied the Eagles to a 17-16 win.

He did it again, though the replacement officials almost made a costly mistake.

Down 23-17, the Eagles started at their 20 with 4:43 left. Vick threw passes of 24 and 13 yards to Brent Celek. A 19-yard pass to Clay Harbor coupled with a roughing-the-passer penalty put the ball at the 3.

Vick then threw incomplete as he was being hit by Haloti Ngata, but the play was ruled a fumble and it was recovered by the Ravens. A replay overturned the call and Vick scored on the next play.

"There's some serious calls the refs missed," Baltimore's Ray Lewis said. "It's just the way it is, man, all around the league. We have to correct that. These games are critical. Guys are giving everything they've got all across the league. But these are calls, with the regular refs, if they were here, we know the way the calls would be made."

The Eagles committed three turnovers in the red zone in the first half and lost two starting offensive linemen in the second. They have nine turnovers in two games, a major reason why they only have 41 points despite totaling 942 yards of offense.

"We have to get better at it," coach Andy Reid said. "You have to take care of the football. You have to throw the football to the right person. This isn't something we planned on having."

Vick finished 23 of 32 for 371 yards with one touchdown and two interceptions. Celek had eight catches for 157 yards and DeSean Jackson had seven receptions for 114 yards.

This was a homecoming of sorts for Flacco and Ravens coach John Harbaugh. Flacco



Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Michael Vick, left, throws an interception as Baltimore Ravens linebacker Courtney Upshaw pursues in the first half of an NFL football game on Sunday, Sept. 16, 2012, in Philadelphia. AP

grew up in nearby Haddon Township, N.J. Harbaugh spent 10 seasons as an assistant under Reid before going to Baltimore in 2008.

Cardinals 20, Patriots 18

In Massachusetts, Stephen Gostkowski lay face down on the field after missing a shot at a winning field goal. On the sideline, Kevin Kolb and the Arizona Cardinals celebrated their victory.

The most accurate kicker in New England Patriots history sent a 42-yard attempt wide to the left on the next to last play - after making three longer field goals - and the Cardinals held on for a 20-18 win.

"Nobody really gave us a chance," said Arizona coach Ken Whisenhunt, whose team was a two-touchdown underdog, "but our guys believed they could do it and it's great to see them operate that way."

49ers 27, Lions 19

In San Francisco, the 49ers stymied 2011 NFL MVP Aaron Rodgers in Week 1, then record-setting Matthew Stafford in Week 2.

This stingy, opportunistic defense is again making its mark as one of the league's best facing the top offenses and most prolific passers—and that you can shake on.

The Niners denied Stafford another milestone. Vernon Davis caught touchdown passes of 21 and 23 yards from Alex Smith, and San Francisco beat the Detroit Lions 27-19 on Sunday night in a September showdown of NFC powers that hardly lived up to its hype.

Steelers 27, Jets 10

In Pittsburgh, so much for Todd Haley cramping Ben Roethlisberger's style.

Showing complete mastery of his new offensive coordinator's complex playbook, the Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback picked apart the New York Jets in a 27-10 on Sunday that doubled as a reality check for both teams.

Hold off on the talk about New York's high-powered offense. Ditto the maybe not so creaky after all Steelers.

Rams 31, Redskins 28

In St. Louis, Robert Griffin III had his moments. The St. Louis Rams, though, have what counts most of all - a win.

Sam Bradford threw for 310 yards and three touchdowns and Danny Amendola caught 15 passes for 160 yards as the Rams rallied for a 31-28 victory over RG3 and the Washington Redskins in their home opener.

"The dome was rocking and it should be in a couple of weeks when we get back," Amendola said. "It was a good game, it came down to the wire, came down to the last kick."

Giants 41, Buccaneers 34

In East Rutherford, New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning threw a career-best 510 yards to lead the reigning Super Bowl champions to their first win of the NFL season on Sunday.

Manning became just the 13th player in NFL history to pass the magical 500-yard milestone when he recovered from a sloppy start to steer the Giants to a 41-34 win over the Tampa

Buccaneer.

Manning threw three interceptions in the second quarter that all led to touchdowns but, just as he did last season when the Giants defied the odds to win the Super Bowl, he found his targets when it mattered.

Chargers 38, Titans 10

In San Diego, reserve tight end Dante Rosario had never caught more than two touchdown passes in a season during his previous five in the NFL. On Sunday, he surpassed that mark by becoming a focal point of the Chargers' offense.

Rosario, who hadn't recorded a touchdown catch since 2009 when he was a member of the Carolina Panthers, was on the receiving end of a career-high three as the San Diego Chargers rolled to a 38-10 victory over the Tennessee Titans at Qualcomm Stadium.

A reserve player who spent last season with the Miami Dolphins and Denver Broncos, Rosario made the most of his opportunity after the Chargers decided to sit Gates, who had spent the week nursing sore ribs.

Seahawks 27, Cowboys 7

In Seattle, Golden Tate circled back around and lined up Sean Lee with a crushing block that sent the burly Dallas linebacker flat to his back with his cleats in the air.

The Seattle Seahawks didn't just beat the Cowboys on Sunday. They physically knocked them around.

Marshawn Lynch ran for 122

yards and a 3-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter, Seattle's special teams came up with two huge first-quarter plays that led to 10 points, and the Seahawks beat the Cowboys, 27-7.

Bengals 34, Browns 27

In Cincinnati, Andy Dalton threw for 318 yards and three touchdowns to three different receivers Sunday as the Cincinnati Bengals bounced back from last week's thrashing.

This time, the Bengals came out on the winning side of a 34-27 shootout against the Cleveland Browns at Paul Brown Stadium.

Dalton set a career-high with a 128.2 passer rating and had touchdown throws of 10 yards to A.J. Green, 44 yards to Brandon Tate and 50 yards to Andrew Hawkins to offset the comeback performances by Cleveland rookie quarterback Brandon Weeden and running back Trent Richardson.

Panthers 35, Saints 27

In Charlotte, Cam Newton talked all week about how much better the Carolina Panthers were on offense then they showed in their season opener. He proved it on Sunday.

The second-year quarterback threw for 253 yards and ran for a career-high 71 yards and led the Panthers to a 35-27 win over New Orleans and leaving the NFC South champion Saints 0-2 for the first time since 2007.

"Times change," wide receiver Steve Smith said of Carolina's first win over New Orleans since 2009.

Bills 35, Chiefs 17

In Orchard Park, C.J. Spiller gladly accepted Fred Jackson's challenge.

And this time, the rest of the Bills—on offense, defense and special teams - showed up to support Spiller who scored twice and finished with 123 yards rushing to spark a 35-17 win over the Kansas City Chiefs in Buffalo's home opener. It was a much better effort than how Buffalo opened the season with a bumbling 48-28 loss to the New York Jets last week.

The same can't be said for the Chiefs, who followed up one dud with another a week after opening the season with a 40-24 loss to Atlanta.

Dolphins 35, Raiders 13

In Florida, Maybe Reggie Bush can lead the league in rushing after all.

The Miami Dolphins veteran running back had made that an offseason goal, then went out and backed it up with a 171-yard, two-touchdown outburst in Sunday's 35-13 win over the Oakland Raiders.

Bush, coming off the first 1,000-yard rushing season of his career, appeared to come up limping after a sweep early in the third quarter. One possession later, he made four Raiders (0-2) miss on his 23-yard touchdown run that put the Dolphins back in front.

Colts 23, Vikings 20

In Indianapolis, Andrew Luck sure didn't play like a rookie Sunday afternoon.

He looked like a new, younger version of Peyton Manning.

The Colts rookie threw two touchdown passes, took advantage of several key Minnesota penalties and marched Indianapolis 45 yards in 23 seconds to set up Adam Vinatieri for a 53-yard field goal with 8 seconds left, which gave Indianapolis a 23-20 victory over Minnesota in Luck's home debut.

Texans 27, Jaguars 7

In Jacksonville, the Jaguars game-planned to take Houston Texans wide receiver Andre Johnson out of the equation.

But that left a lot of other opportunities and running backs Arian Foster and Ben Tate made the most of them.

The Texans built a 17-0 half-time lead, with Foster and Tate each scoring a touchdown, and went on to beat the Jaguars 27-7 Sunday in front of 62,907 at EverBank Field.

Houston (2-0) is the only unbeaten team in the AFC South after just two weeks.

Foster rushed for 110 yards on a workload of 28 carries, just four days after he missed practice with the flu. He passed Dominic Williams as the all-time leading rusher in Texans history with 3,176 yards.

Cards beat Dodgers, take second wild card spot



LOS ANGELES, Calif.—

Jon Jay

hit a go-ahead RBI double during a three-run 12th inning and the St. Louis Cardinals split its four-game series against the Los Angeles Dodgers, winning, 5-2, on Sunday and regaining undisputed possession of the second NL wild card spot.

John Ely (0-2) issued a lead-off walk to Matt Carpenter and Jay drove him in from second base with a line drive into the right field corner on an 0-2 pitch. Jay scored on an infield hit up the middle by Allen Craig and Yadier Molina walked with the bases loaded.

Rookie Shelby Miller (1-0) pitched one inning for his first major league victory.

Jason Motte got three outs for his 35th save in 42 chances after giving up the tying and winning runs in Saturday night's 4-3 loss.

Diamondbacks 10, Giants 2

In Phoenix, Rookie Patrick Corbin pitched a career-long eight innings and drove in four runs with a triple and single.

The RBIs and the extra-base hit were firsts for Corbin, who entered the game batting .071 (2 for 28).

Justin Upton had a solo homer and two-run double as the Diamondbacks averted a three-game Giants sweep.

Cubs 13, Pirates 9

In Chicago, Anthony Rizzo hit two home runs and drove in six.

Rizzo hit a two-run shot in a four-run fifth inning, then capped a five-run sixth with his first career grand slam to seize the lead for Chicago. The six RBI are a career-high, and it was also the 23-year-old's first multihomer game.

Reds 5, Marlins 4

In Miami, Ryan Ludwick hit a



St. Louis Cardinals' Yadier Molina reacts as he is hit by a pitch during the 11th inning of their baseball game against the Los Angeles Dodgers, Sunday, Sept. 16, 2012, in Los Angeles. AP

go-ahead single in the 11th inning to lift the Cincinnati Reds to a 5-4 win over the Miami Marlins.

Ludwick, Diner Navarro, and Didi Gregorius each had three hits for the Reds, who tied a season high with 17 hits.

Astros 7, Phillies 6

In Houston, Justin Maxwell hit a two-run double and Matt Dominguez added a two-run single in Houston's four-run seventh inning.

Philadelphia lost three of four against Houston to fall 3 1/2 games behind St. Louis and Los Angeles in the National League wild card race.

Brewers 3, Mets 0

In Milwaukee, Ryan Braun hit two home runs and rookie pitcher Wily Peralta gave up two singles in eight innings.

The reigning most valuable player now has 201 home runs in his career, as Milwaukee won for the 20th time in its last 26

games to remain 2 1/2 games out of the second wild-card spot. The left fielder leads the league with a career-high 40 homers.

Padres 12, Rockies 11

In San Diego, rookie Yonder Alonso singled in the winning run in the ninth to cap a wild offensive affair.

Colorado scored six times in the eighth to tie the game on rookie Josh Rutledge's grand slam.

In the ninth, Everth Cabrera

reached on a one-out infield single against Matt Belisle (3-7). With two outs, Belisle balked Cabrera to second and then intentionally walked Chase Headley to bring up Alonso.

Braves 5, Nationals 1

In Atlanta, Mike Minor threw six strong innings and Dan Uggla broke it open with a two-run single as Atlanta denied Gio Gonzalez his 20th win and completed a sweep of first-place Washington.

Minor (9-10) allowed five hits before turning it over to the bullpen. Cory Gearrin, Luis Avilan and Chad Durbin each worked a scoreless inning to close it out.

Orioles 9, Athletics 5

In Oakland, Matt Wieters hit two solo home runs and Endy Chavez had four hits to help the Baltimore Orioles beat the Oakland Athletics 9-5 on Sunday and remain within a game of the New York Yankees in the AL East.

Chavez drove in two runs for the Orioles, who have won four of six in snapping a three-game road losing streak. J.J. Hardy, Mark Reynolds, Manny Machado, Chris Davis and Robert Andino also drove in runs.

Indians 7, Tigers 6

In Cleveland, Lonnie Chisenhall singled in the winning run with one out in the ninth inning to help Cleveland deal the Tigers a crucial loss Sunday.

The Tigers had manager Jim Leyland ejected and catcher Alex Avila hurt in a collision with Prince Fielder as they dropped two games behind in the AL Central. They go to

Chicago to face the first-place White Sox on Monday.

Rangers 2, Mariners 1

In Arlington, Matt Harrison pitched into the ninth inning for his 17th victory and Texas added

to its AL West lead for the first time in 10 days.

Adrian Beltre hit his 33rd homer for the Rangers, and Michael Young had his second three-hit game in four days.

Yankees 6, Rays 4

In New York, Russell Martin's three-run homer highlighted an eventful early burst and the Yankees kept their AL East lead.

The Yankees won the last two in the three-game series. They began the day with a one-game division lead over Baltimore, which later played at Oakland.

White Sox 9, Twins 2

In Minneapolis, Jake Peavy baffled Minnesota again, Dayan Viciedo and Adam Dunn homered, and the Chicago White Sox beat the Twins 9-2 on Sunday.

The White Sox scored six runs in the sixth inning to support Peavy (11-11) and stay ahead of Detroit in the AL Central.

The Tigers were playing Cleveland on Sunday and travel to Chicago for a makeup game on Monday. It will be the final time the two teams meet this season.

Angels 4, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Mark Trumbo hit a three-run homer and Dan Haren pitched effectively into the sixth inning.

Trumbo, who had hit just .177 with 62 strikeouts in his previous 37 games to drop his average from .306 to .268, homered off Will Smith (5-8) in the second inning.

Blue Jays 5, Red Sox 0

In Toronto, Adeiny Hechavarria hit a two-run home run and Omar Vizquel had two hits.

The game was scoreless until the bottom of the seventh, when Yan Gomes grounded a two-out single up the middle against Jon Lester (9-12), just the second hit for the Blue Jays.

lengthy wait to return to the NHL.

The core issue is money—how to split a \$3.3 billion pot of revenue. The owners want to decrease the percentage of hockey-related revenue that goes to players, while the union wants a guarantee that players annually get at least the \$1.8 billion in salaries paid out last season.

While the NHL lockout might not destroy the whole season - like in 2004-05 - a sizable chunk of games could be lost without any productive talks on tap.

"I'm sure we will remain in contact," NHL Deputy Commissioner Bill Daly said. "But there are no negotiations planned or scheduled at this point."

Teams are prepared for the likelihood the season will not start on time. And so they are making economic plans on several fronts. At the end of each month, for instance, the Buffalo Sabres will refund any games that are canceled by the NHL.



NEW YORK
(AP)—Die-hard hockey fans might need to invest in some classic NHL games on DVD.

It might be the only taste of hockey for months.

There's no telling when the NHL lockout will end, especially when neither the league nor the NHLPA has committed to face-to-face negotiations to end the labor unrest. There were no formal talks Sunday on the first day of the lockout, the league's fourth shutdown since 1992, including a year-long dispute that forced the cancellation of the entire 2004-05 season when the league successfully held out for a salary cap.

And there are no formal talks planned.

The league issued a statement to fans on its website that it was "committed to negotiating around the clock to reach a new

No progress as Day 1 of NHL lockout comes, goes

CBA that is fair to the players and to the 30 NHL teams."

The clock is ticking and there's no new collective bargaining agreement in sight. The league could start to announce this week the cancellation of pre-season games and there's little chance training camps will open on time. The regular season is scheduled to begin Oct. 11, but that obviously is in peril.

Day 1 of the lockout could serve as a preview for the next several cold months: Empty rinks, empty talk.

"This is a time of year for all attention to be focused on the ice, not on a meeting room," the league said. "The league, the clubs and the players all have a stake in resolving our bargaining issues appropriately and getting the puck dropped as soon as possible. We owe it to each

other, to the game and, most of all, to the fans."

Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby, Chicago's Jonathan Toews and Colorado's Gabriel Landeskog were among the players participating in an NHLPA video to fans that was posted on YouTube. With black-and-white photos of each player as a backdrop, they talked about how much the game meant to them, and thanked fans for their support.

"We understand the people that suffer the most are the fans," Crosby said.

Some players won't wait for labor talks to pick up - they've already packed up.

As of Sunday morning, all NHL players were free to speak to other leagues. Many will land in Russia's KHL, and two big names already signed. Pittsburgh center Evgeni Malkin and Ot-

tawa defenseman Sergei Gonchar agreed to deals with Metallurg. More will surely follow.

Malkin, a 26-year-old center with the Penguins, is the NHL's reigning MVP. The 38-year-old Gonchar is a defenseman who helped lead the Senators to the playoffs last season.

Although the club provided no further details of their contracts, it said that they would comply with KHL regulations on signing NHL players during the lockout. Under these rules, KHL teams can sign a maximum of three NHL players above their limit of 25.

The KHL also sets the ceiling for the salaries of NHL players at a maximum of 65 percent of what they earn under their NHL deals. Malkin has two years and \$16.5 million remaining on his deal with Pittsburgh. Gonchar

has one year and \$5.5 million left with Ottawa.

Philadelphia Flyers defenseman Kimmo Timonen and forward Scott Hartnell are part owners of a team in the Finnish league. Timonen, a father of three children, said it would be hard to immediately consider playing overseas unless the entire season was wiped out. But Timonen returned to his native Finland to play in 2004, and clearly understands why some young players are interested in finding a roster spot in Europe.

"A lot of young guys are asking if there's a spot to play," he said. "I'm sure our team can take a few of the guys, but not many."

Many of the players, 25 years and younger, could end up in the AHL, the NHL's primary minor league. No matter where they play, the players are prepared for a

Marquez surprised Pacquiao agreed to Dec. 8 bout in Vegas



MANILA, Philippines—

Juan Manuel Marquez is never expecting to see Manny Pacquiao standing across the ring again as his opponent.

After giving the Filipino icon three grueling, controversial fights—forcing Pacquiao to work a total of 36 hard rounds—Marquez thought Pacquiao already wanted no part of him.

So when he learned that Pacquiao has agreed to face him for the fourth time, Marquez admitted getting astounded.

"I always thought that Pacquiao wouldn't fight with me again," Marquez told boxing-scene.com's Ryan Burton during the middleweight championship fight between Sergio Martinez and Julio Cesar Chavez Jr. at the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas yesterday.

In 2004, Marquez rallied from three first-round knockdowns to hold Pacquiao to a controversial split draw. In their 2008 rematch, Pacquiao escaped with a split-decision victory, but not after getting cut by the counter-punching Mexican.

The two rivals met for the third time in 2011, and Pacquiao once again emerged victorious, this time by a majority decision. Boxing observers thought that could be

it, because both boxers' styles neutralize each other that there could never be a decisive outcome even if they fought 20 more times.

Pacquiao took on Timothy Bradley in June this year and lost his WBO welterweight title. The fighting congressman even went as far as considering retirement if he won't get a megafight with Floyd Mayweather Jr. this year.

But Marquez's name popped up anew.

And now, Pacquiao and Marquez are headed for a fourth meeting on Dec. 8 in Las Vegas (Dec. 9 in Manila), something that the Mexican didn't expect.

"I was worried about it and I was surprised he accepted the fight with me but now I am very happy," said Marquez, who to this day insists he won those three fights.

Pacquiao is already in Los Angeles and is expected to finalize the bout, which could be officially announced anytime this week.

Marquez, for his part, vowed to clearly beat Pacquiao convincingly this time.

"I will train very hard for this fight. Pacquiao knows me and I know him. I am going to work on my speed for this fight. I thought I won the first three fights but they were close. I need to add a new wrinkle in this fight and make it decisive this time," Marquez said.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	83	63	.568	—
Baltimore	82	64	.562	1
Tampa Bay	78	68	.534	5
Toronto	66	79	.455	16 1/2
Boston	66	81	.449	17 1/2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	79	66	.545	—
Detroit	77	68	.531	2
Kansas City	66	80	.452	13 1/2
Cleveland	61	86	.415	19
Minnesota	60	87	.408	20

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	87	59	.596	—
Oakland	84	62	.575	3
Los Angeles	80	67	.544	7 1/2
Seattle	70	77	.476	17 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	89	57	.610	—
Atlanta	84	63	.571	5 1/2
Philadelphia	73	74	.497	16 1/2
New York	66	80	.452	23
Miami	65	82	.442	24 1/2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cincinnati	88	59	.599	—
St. Louis	77	70	.524	11
Milwaukee	74	72	.507	13 1/2
Pittsburgh	73	72	.503	14
Chicago	58	88	.397	29 1/2
Houston	48	99	.327	40

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	83	63	.568	—
Los Angeles	76	71	.517	7 1/2
Arizona	72	74	.493	11
San Diego	71	76	.483	12 1/2
Colorado	58	87	.400	24 1/2

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEWBIE

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course online and the swim has me nervous. They appear to have much rougher waters. This year Saipan had great water conditions so I am just hoping and praying that the water conditions are calm and that Mother Nature will be nice to us. I am by no means fast, I just want to finish strong and not pass out," said Wondrasek, who will join the now Guam-based Mieko Carey in next month's competition.

The race in Hawaii will start with a 1-mile swim at the rough waters of D.T. Flemings Beach.

Next up is the 18.3-mile bike leg along the slopes of West Maui Mountains and the last is

the 6.1-mile run leg along the dirt trails of Oleander forests, 60-foot high ironwood evergreens, and mountain lake at the 650-foot level, according to Xterra World website.

Of the three legs, Wondrasek believes she performs well in biking.

"I have really enjoyed mountain biking, especially technical trails. It's something that originally I didn't think I would have the guts to do but after getting on the bike, I found that I really do enjoy the thrill and the excitement of it all. I just got my clip-ins so I am excited to see how they help with powering up the hills,"

The Bottineau, North Dakota native has been training for Xterra World for months

PIC

From Page 24

serted their might in the paint.

Demapan drained 10 of his total output in the second canto for their 40-33 halftime advantage, while Barbo took over in the third, nailing 9 markers, as PIC upped the lead to double digits, 65-55.

Then in the fourth canto, the PIC trio scored at least two field goals apiece to foil Fong's repeated comeback bids. Fong's Bakery had four players breaking into double digits, but could not overhaul PIC's lead, as the

former's points were scattered in all four quarters and it could not get into its rhythm.

In the first game, Ashley's regrouped after falling behind in the first quarter en route to the 13-point victory against Servitek.

Down by nine at the end of the first period, 15-24, Rolly Paraiso anchored Ashley's recovery in the second period, scoring 8 points. Ashley's outgunned Servitek in the second canto, 26-14, to turn the tables at the break, 41-38.

Clayton Kenty, who had 11 points for Servitek in the opening canto, was limited to one field in the second frame, and

in the second half to foil the former's upset bid.

Rachel Abrams and Danica Canedo paced UCC with 9 points each, while four of their teammates added at least 4 markers apiece for the team's balance of offense. Marlene Lumabi paced Ichiban with her 10 points.

In the second game, IDK Who limited Kiss My Pass to single digit scoring in the second and third quarters to gain enough cushion en route to its 4-point victory.

Kiss My Pass was on top of its game right at the opening buzzer, posting a 17-9 advantage. Sisters Jeraldine and Jeralyn Castillo did most of the damage for Kiss My Pass in the first period, as they combined for 15 of their total production.

IDK Who, which was held to three field goals in the first can-

to, then began hitting its marks and at the same time tightened up its defense in the second frame to grab the upper hand at halftime, 22-21. After a strong start, Kiss My Pass converted only one field goal off Jeralyn Castillo's basket and drew one free throw each from Diane Pablo and Mikky Vargas.

Kiss My Pass' lackluster offense continued in the third period with none of its players making more than a field goal. IDK Who, on the other hand, doubled Kiss My Pass' third-quarter output, 14-7, to stretch its lead to 8, 36-28, heading into the final canto.

In the fourth quarter, Kiss My Pass managed score in double digits (12), but IDK Who answered with four crucial free throws in the homestretch to keep the lead and the win.

Irish Pagarao top-scored for

complete Playboy's upset.

In the first game, QQ Rent A Car gave up only 8 points to Looban in the second period to coast to the easy win.

QQ was on top by only 4 points at the end of the opening canto, 20-16, when Looban was held to four field goals in the second frame, allowing the former to post a 39-24 halftime lead. QQ protected the double-digit lead in the third and until midway of the fourth before Looban tried to mount a comeback, but failed.

Marlon Sison has 17 points for QQ, which is still in playoff contention, as it has a 3-3 record for a tie for fourth place with Church 360 in Pool B. Looban dropped to a 3-4 card and must

win its last game and pray that neither QQ or Church 360 gets

making running fun and enjoyable. They help me push myself and to stick with it. Suzy has also been great at supplying me with swimming workouts and tips to perfect my stroke. I have also had a lot of help from Eileen Escudero Wisor, and Arielle Buyum is helping me find sponsors and putting together my upcoming fundraisers," said Wondrasek, who will host a bike race fundraiser this Sunday.

The Saipan triathlete also thanked the following for supporting her Xterra World trip: IT&E, Powerade, Pacific Trading, Handbags, MARPAC, Marianas Resort, Restaurant 360, Shell, Joeten Superstore, Hollywood Theaters, Paradise Island Animal Hospital, and Microl-Toyota.

Talanian 5, Mangali 4.

Servitek 76 — Kenty 24, Cruz 19, Brennan 9, Detera 8, Morales 8, Cascabel 4, Alejandro 2, Esconde 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-15, 41-38, 68-63, 89-76.

Second Game

Pacific Islands Club 89 — Abuy 23, Demapan 21, Barbo 18, Sublemente 9, Sutton 6, Bartolo 4, Abuel 4.

Fong's Bakery 77 — Pagarao 23, Tabora 16, Caro 14, Mafi 14, Diaz 4, Catalla 2, Yalung 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-15, 40-33, 65-55, 89-77.

IDK Who with her 19 points, including two of the team's four charities in the fourth canto. Jeralyn Castillo had 17 for Kiss My Pass.

First Game

UCC 40 — Abrams 9, Canedo 9, Williams 6, Alegre 6, Ito 4, Nimer 4, Alferos 2.

Ichiban 30 — Lumabi 10, Santiago 6, Pena 6, Bartolo 5, Gatchalian 2.

Scoring by quarters: 11-2, 19-13, 32-22, 40-2



**Vick rallies
Eagles for
late win
over Ravens**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

**Cards beat
Dodgers, take
second wild
card spot**



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Robyn Wondrasek competes in a local bike race early this year in preparation for her participation in the 2012 Xterra World Championship in Hawaii.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Playboy ends Zhaila's run



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER


Playboy caught a big fish in Zhaila's All Starz, eking out a 74-65 victory in the second game in the DLX/Gualo Rai Invitational Basketball.

See PLAYBOY on Page 23

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Brgy. San Antonio's Adrian Palacios drives against Mawati's Francis Serrano during their rained-out game in the DLX caging last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court. San Antonio led the match in the second quarter and a win will put the team in a tie for first place with Zhaila's All Starz, which bowed to Playboys last Friday.

Newbie out to face Xterra World test

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Up-and-coming triathlete Robyn Wondrasek picked up a bike and started riding just at the beginning of the year and two months later she earned a ticket to the prestigious 2012 Xterra World Championship.

"I thought that swimming and biking in triathlon sounded great, but never wanted to do one because of the running. Last January, I decided that I wanted to start making some changes in my life so I got a bike and started riding. I talked to friends about doing the sport course of Xterra Saipan and a lot of them encouraged me to do the whole course. I started running with Joshua Berger who encourages me to running 4:1's (run 4 minutes, walk a minute). It's great for building up your endurance, speed, and protecting your knees. By using that method I have come to really enjoy running



long distances," said Wondrasek. The Marianas High School teacher ended up completing the Xterra Saipan Championship course in March this year with a decent time of 4:39:36. She finished ahead of 12 other participants, including two veteran

Saipan triathletes, and won the 25 to 29 age group

"Xterra Saipan was my first big competition and triathlon. Maui's will be the biggest. The closer it gets, the more nervous I am getting. There are about 800 competitors," said Wondrasek.

She does not have a target time in the October 28 race in Hawaii, as she just wants to complete the two-year old course in Kapalua.

"It's hard for me to have a target time because this is only my second triathlon and the course is so different from Saipan's. I was looking at the Maui

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PIC stretches streak; Ashley's rebounds



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Ashley's Marlon De Dios, right, bangs into the defense of Servitek's George Cruz and draws a foul, too, during the second quarter of their game in the Emon Lodge caging last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Pacific Islands Club extended its winning run, while Ashley's recovered from its debut loss, following their victories against

separate foes in the 2012 Emon Lodge 179 Basketball League-Docomo Brotherhood Cup last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

In the curtain raiser, Ashley's (1-1) whipped Servitek (0-2), 89-76, while PIC outclassed Fong's Bakery (1-1), 89-77. PIC now has a 3-0 record for the solo lead in the 10-team field, one win ahead of the defending champion Mobil (2-0).

The trio of James Abuy, Bart Demapan, and Darwin Barbo proved to be too much for Fong's Bakery. Abuy had 23 points and converted four triples, while Demapan and Barbo added 21 and 18, respectively.

Abuy drilled back-to-back triples to end the first quarter with PIC ahead, 18-15. The San Antonio-based team never relinquished the driver's seat from thereon, as while Abuy was consistent with his outside shots, Barbo and Demapan as

See PIC on Page 23

IDK Who, UCC share lead



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
UCC's Danica Canedo, left, beats an Ichiban player for the rebound during their first outing in the Kanoa women's caging at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

IDK Who and UCC opened the second round of the 2012 Kanoa Resort Women's Fall Basketball League with separate wins last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

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